

EX-CON SLAIN IN PROJECT

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A 37-year-old Detroit man, released from prison last year after serving time in a kidnap-torture case, was shot to death Wednesday evening in the Brewster housing project on the city's east side

Charles Earl (Longbridge) Baker died in the emergency room at Detroit Receiving Hospital from a gunshot wound in the head, police said.

Officers responding to a radio run on Benton between Brush and Beaubien shortly after 6 p.m. found Baker lying in the street. Homicide detectives said no one admitted seeing the actual shooting.

However, a reporter heard bystanders say that Baker, a reputed **drug dealer**, recognized his assailants and was shot down by men wearing stocking masks as he ran through a weed-covered empty lot.

Baker was convicted Aug. 1, 1979, of attempted kidnapping, felonious assault and a firearm violation in the kidnap-torture of Audrey Scott, 29. Scott testified that Baker, along with James Elliott and Alice Faye Ragland, held her captive for a day and a half. During that time, she said, she was beaten, her head held under water and she was strung up by her feet from a basement rafter.

Scott escaped through a basement window after swinging her suspended body to a water pipe and disengaging her feet from a clothesline noose.

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