

GOINS SAYS HE SHOT POLICE OFFICERS TO PROTECT FRIENDS

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A soft-spoken Cary Vincent Goins testified Tuesday that he shot first and asked questions later the night of March 28 when he **charged** across Woodward Avenue **in** a "hop, skip and a jump" to gun down two **men** who had confronted five of his companions.

"I asked Kevin (Brown) who they were . . . the guys on Woodward" after running from the scene, Goins said.

Goins, 17, is **charged** with first -degree **murder** and assault with intent to **murder** for killing Detroit police gang squad officer William Green and wounding Green's partner, Eric Byers.

The jury trial before Recorder's Court Judge Richard Hathaway is expected to conclude today. If convicted, Goins faces a mandatory life prison sentence with no parole.

"A car pulled up, and two **men** jumped out with guns **in** their hands," he said under questioning by his attorney Paul Curtis. "I ran across the street. I shot at them . . . I thought they was trying to hurt my friends."

However, under cross-examination by Assistant Prosecutor Timothy Kenny, Goins said he really was not sure that a robbery was taking place.

"I didn't give them a chance to (explain)," he said. "I was trying to defend my friends."

Goins said he acted so quickly -- not even knowing if the gun was loaded -- because one of his friends was wearing one of his rings, a 26-diamond cluster "worth 15-to-1,600 dollars."

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