

GROCER GETS TWO YEARS IN KILLING OF 17-YEAR-OLD

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Thomas Dickow, the Detroit market owner convicted last month of involuntary manslaughter in the fatal shooting of a Detroit teenager, was sentenced Wednesday to two years in prison, five years' probation, was fined \$5,000 and ordered to pay for his victim's funeral.

Outside court, Michael Jackson and Ruby Wilson, parents of the slain teenager, Albert (A.C.) Wilson, said the sentence was not severe enough.

"It's outrageous," Wilson said. "I don't want his money, I want my child."

Jackson, who left the courtroom as the sentence was being handed down, said: "A man get off like that, this is -- I just don't know. They tried to treat the boy like he was some type of hoodlum, like he just didn't count."

DETROIT POLICE Officer Gary Porter, who had confiscated a gun from **Dickow** after a confrontation with another customer the night before Wilson, 17, was shot, said: "This is Vincent Chin all over again. It's exactly the same thing."

Porter referred to the highly publicized case of two white men given probation in Wayne County Circuit Court in the beating death of Chin, an American of Chinese descent. The two are being tried in U.S. District Court in Detroit on charges that they violated Chin's civil rights.

Recorder's Court Judge Donald L. Hobson ordered **Dickow** to serve a mandatory two-year prison sentence for using a firearm in commission of a felony and five years' probation for the manslaughter conviction, with the last year to be served in the Detroit House of Correction. Often, such a jail sentence is suspended if terms of the probation are fulfilled.

Hobson also ordered **Dickow** to perform 250 hours of community service and warned him that he would be given a 10-to-15-year sentence if he violated any condition of the sentence.

ORIGINALLY charged with first-degree murder and the firearm violation, **Dickow**, 34, was convicted by a jury of involuntary manslaughter and the firearm charge in Wilson's fatal shooting outside the Bi-Centennial market on Chene on March 1, 1983.

After the shooting, a large crowd burned and looted the market, owned by the Iraqi-born **Dickow**.

The killing and the trial highlighted tensions between black Detroiters and merchants of Middle Eastern heritage.

Defense attorney Edward Bell argued to the jury that Wilson was in a group of neighborhood youths who had been harassing **Dickow** and vandalizing his property for months. The shooting allegedly was sparked when **Dickow** 's car window was broken and **Dickow** confronted Wilson outside the market.

Testifying in his defense, **Dickow** said he was trying to make a citizen's arrest and that the gun went off when Wilson tried to grab it.

But Assistant Prosecutor Lee Janice said **Dickow** took the law into his own hands when trying to deal with Wilson and other customers.

During the trial, Janice tried to present testimony that **Dickow** , after his gun was confiscated the day before the shooting, told Porter he had other weapons and would use them. Hobson did not allow Porter's testimony to be presented to the jury.

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