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Detroit, Michigan

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESS RELEASE

3 Suspects Charged In Woodlawn Triple Murder

Prosecutor Kym L. Worthy charged Toryana Royal, age 22 of Detroit with three counts of First Degree Murder, Assault with Intent to Murder, one count of Felony Firearm, Felon in Possession of a Firearm and as a Third Habitual offender in connection with the triple homicide that occurred on Monday, March 1, 2004, in the 9000 block of Woodlawn in Detroit.

There are two other suspects who are being sought by the Detroit Police Department in connection with the murders. Alfonzo Deshawn Thomas is charged with three counts of First Degree Murder, Assault with Intent to Murder, one count of Felony Firearm, Felon in Possession of a Firearm and as a Second Habitual Offender. Deangelo Lamont Thomas is charged with three counts of First Degree Murder, Assault with Intent to Murder, one count of Felony Firearm.

Prosecutor Worthy stated: " These murders were senseless acts. Now more than ever we must attack the cause of violence at its root. We must start with our churches, our schools, and our block clubs to change the culture and not accept killings and violence as a way of life."

Kevin Cooper, Robert Neal, and Dorian Latam died as a result of multiple gunshot wounds. Another male, shot multiple times, survived.

First Degree Murder carries life in prison without parole. Assault with Intent to Murder carries a maximum penalty of up to life in prison, and Felony Firearm carries a mandatory two year sentence. Felon in Possession carries up to a five-year sentence.

The defendant will be arraigned in 36th District Court at 1:00 p.m. today, March 5, 2004.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT: Maria Miller, Director of Public Relations, Office of the Wayne County Prosecutor, (313) 224-5817 (office) or (313) 213-0457 (cell)

February 23, 2004