

HARRINGTON TO BE TRIED IN BUHL BUILDING ATTACK

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A northwest Detroit insurance salesman was ordered Friday to stand trial on **murder** and arson charges stemming from his alleged June 11 shotgun and firebomb attack on the Buhl Building offices of lawyers Edward Bell and Lester Hudson.

Robert Harrington, 35, is **charged** with first-degree **murder**, five counts of attempted **murder**, arson and use of a firearm **in** a felony. A pre-trial hearing was scheduled July 2.

THE **MURDER** charge stems from the death of law intern Eve August, 24, who was hit by shotgun blasts **in** the chest, arm, hand and lower body.

The five attempted **murder** charges stem from:

- * The shooting of Bell, who was wounded after telling Harrington a check he was expecting had not arrived.
- * The shooting of Michelle Jenkins, the law firm's receptionist, who testified that Harrington aimed a shotgun at her and fired from two feet away. She told the court she escaped the full
- * The shooting of private investigator Walter Herndon, wounded **in** the foot with a handgun as the gunman tried to leave the building. Herndon, a former Detroit policeman with offices next to the law firm's, testified that he exchanged fire with Harrington after hearing gunshots and seeing smoke.
- * The fall of Hudson from an eighth-floor window onto the roof over the third floor. Assistant Prosecutor Timothy Kenny said Hudson was trying to escape the fire.

Hudson, who suffered head injuries **in** the fall, remains **in** critical condition at Detroit Receiving Hospital. A hospital spokeswoman declined to comment Friday on the chances for his full recovery.

- * The fall of attorney Saunders Dorsey, who also landed on the third floor roof as he tried to escape the fire. Dorsey suffered serious back injuries; he is **in** serious condition after surgery at Detroit Receiving Hospital.

THIRTY-SIXTH District Judge John Murphy ordered the trial after a 2 1/2-day preliminary examination. More than a dozen witnesses testified about the 90-minute rampage that started about 11:15 a.m.

Harrington, who allegedly was armed with a pistol, a sawed-off shotgun and a jar of gasoline, is accused of firing the weapons and setting the law offices afire, causing extensive damage and the evacuation of the downtown building.

BELL, A FORMER circuit judge who once ran for mayor of Detroit, testified early **in** the examination. He said Harrington began his attack after Bell told him an expected insurance check from a 1981 fire **in** Harrington's northwest Detroit home had not arrived at the office.

Other members of the firm testified they heard the gunman and a **man** later identified as his brother, Gerald Harrington, argue over a gun. Gerald, a vice-president of First Independence National Bank, went to the offices **in** an attempt to stop his brother, police and witnesses said.

The terror-filled incident ended when Detective Thomas Robinson, the first policeman to arrive on the eighth floor, arrested Harrington.

Robinson identified the shotgun Robert Harrington allegedly used to kill August. Robinson said he first arrested both Harringtons, but Gerald Harrington was released when it became clear that he was trying to prevent the attack.

Judge Murphy set no bond for Robert Harrington, who was returned to the Wayne County Jail.

Caption: Drawing MOSES HARRIS

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