

'WE WERE ALL GOING TO DIE': LAW CLERK TESTIFIES IN BUHL BLDG. CASE

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As six terrified people barricaded themselves **in** the law library as a rampaging gunman threatened to kill everyone **in** the office, a young law clerk thought: "This was it. We were all going to die."

Sequoia DuBose, a clerk **in** the law offices of Edward Bell and Lester Hudson, testified **in** Detroit's 36th District Court Thursday that Gerald Harrington, the brother of accused killer Robert Harrington, 35, tried talking Robert into stopping the attack:

"Bob, you don't have to do this . . . I'm not going to let you do this . . . Kill me . . . I won't let you do this . . ." Gerald Harrington said, according to DuBose.

DuBose was the first witness Thursday **in** the pre-trial hearing for Robert Harrington, a northwest Detroit insurance salesman who is **charged** with first-degree **murder**, felony **murder**, five counts of attempted **murder**, arson and felonious use of a firearm **in** the June 11 shooting and firebombing at the Buhl Building offices of Bell and Hudson.

AFTER THE HEARING, expected to end today, Judge John Murphy will rule on whether Harrington should stand trial on the charges.

DuBose told the court he had been **in** another office working with intern Eve August, who was killed **in** the incident, and moved to the library where three other clerks were also working shortly before the shooting began.

When he and his colleagues first heard shots, DuBose testified, they tried to hide behind the couch **in** the library. Later, after office manager Geraldine Johnson and a wounded Bell entered the library, they barricaded the door with a table and the couch.

DuBOSE TESTIFIED they heard screams and shots and the sound of running before they heard a **man** they thought was the gunman say: "I'm going to kill every mother----- **in** this place."

DuBose testified that he turned to a colleague with him **in** the library and told him to get prepared to die. "I thought this was it. We were all going to die," DuBose said.

Then they heard the argument outside, DuBose said. The gunman responded to his brother: "I want my money . . . I'm tired of everyone f----- over this."

DuBose testified he heard a **man** later identified as Gerald Harrington say: "You've got to get out of here. The police are coming. You know they've called the police." He said he also heard the accused gunman's response: "I know. I'm ready to die."

Gerald Harrington, the defendant's brother and a vice- president and auditor at the First Independence National Bank, had gone to the Buhl Building to try to stop the rampage. August, 24, who had worked for the law firm less than a month, was killed. Bell, private investigator Walter Herndon and receptionist Michelle Jenkins were wounded. Hudson and attorney Saunders Dorsey were injured as they jumped or fell from eighth- floor windows onto a third-floor roof while fleeing the fire and the shooting.

AS DuBOSE and others testified, Robert Harrington, a slightly built **man**, sat across from his attorney, Warren Bracy, staring down at the defense table.

When Dr. John Smialek, deputy chief medical examiner who performed the autopsy on August, testified about the four wounds that killed her, Harrington occasionally shook his head as though he didn't believe what he was hearing.

Assistant Wayne County Prosecutor Timothy Kenny presented other employees of the law firm who said they watched Dorsey and Hudson drop from the windows onto the roof five floors below.

Sgt. Thomas Robinson, the 3rd (Vernor) Precinct detective who arrested both Harringtons, identified the sawed-off, 12-gauge shotgun police say was used **in** the August killing and described the arrest scene.

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