

Boucher gets maximum sentence in murder case

Former Birmingham orthodontist Dr. Daniel Boucher received a mandatory sentence of life imprisonment Tuesday for the shotgun murder of his ex-wife at her West Bloomfield home 12 1/2 years ago.

Following sentencing, Boucher re-

portedly gave his version of what happened the night of Oct. 16, 1968, when he killed his wife and is alleged to have killed his son.

"He felt the facts of the case had been misrepresented. He gave them from his point of view," said a spokes-

woman for Oakland County Circuit Court Judge Steven Andrews.

Boucher said the shooting was an accident. He said that if the jury wanted to convict him they should have found him guilty of manslaughter rather than murder.

Boucher made his statement against advice of his attorney Thomas Binion, who defended Boucher on the grounds that he was innocent by reason of insanity. Binion told the court he had advised Dr. Boucher not to give the statement, the court spokeswoman reported.

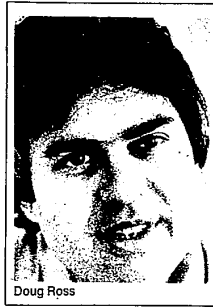
The court spokeswoman described Boucher's statement as "coherent" read directly from notes handwritten on a legal pad.

he had done as well as its ramifications.

Boucher, now 56, was convicted in 1971 of the murder of his former wife. That conviction was overturned in 1973 by the State Court of Appeals which

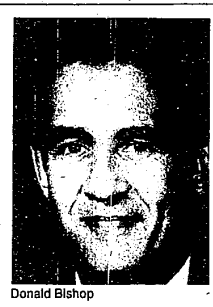
found a procedural error in Boucher's non-jury trial.

The defense will appeal the conviction, Binion said directly after the verdict. The appeal will be on a number of issues, Binion said at the time.



Meet lawmakers

The West Bloomfield-Farmington League of Women Voters are sponsoring a meet-your-senator breakfast on May 8 at 9:30 a.m. in the Church of Our Savior, 6655 Middlebelt, West Bloomfield. Guests will be state senators Donald Bishop and Doug Ross. For reservations, call 553-3672 or 851-3334.



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