

High court overturns ex-judge's order

By TIM RICHARD
STAFF WRITER

Benjamin Veling will be back in Oakland Circuit Court next month to learn whether he will be sentenced as a juvenile or adult for shotgunning a Wixom neighbor.

Veling's attorney, William Ziem of Walled Lake, won a 7 to 0 Michigan Supreme Court decision Tuesday ordering still another hearing in the three-year-old case.

"It is interesting to note that defendant (Veling) does not contest the validity of his conviction," said a Supreme Court footnote, "but only the court's authority to sentence him."

The issue — which lawyers call a "case of first impression" — revolves around a confusing 1988 change in state law giving prosecutors more authority to charge 15- and 16-year-olds as adults.

Veling was 15 at the time of the shooting in September of 1990. Now 18, he has been free on bond.

Oakland prosecutor Richard Thompson wants Veling sentenced as an adult before Circuit Judge Denise Langford-Morris, who could send him to prison. Ziem will ask that Veling be turned over to the juvenile division of Probate Court, which at most could send him to a juvenile facility until he turns 21.

The Legislature changed the law to allow prosecution of youngsters as adults where they are charged with such major crimes as assault with intent to murder, assault with intent to commit armed robbery, attempted murder, first and second degree murder, for example.

Veling wounded another 15-year-old with a 16-gauge shotgun and was charged with assault with intent to commit murder.

At trial, however, Veling was convicted of the lesser offense of assault with intent to do great bodily harm less than murder — an offense not listed in the 1988 law change.

Trial judge Alice Gilbert, without a hearing, turned Veling over to probate court for sentencing. Thompson went to the Court of Appeals and won a reversal of Gilbert's order. Ziem, Veling's attorney, carried the case to the high court.

"(T)he circuit judge's remand order to the probate court for disposition should be vacated, and the judge ordered to conduct a hearing" to determine whether Veling and the public are best served by a probate or circuit court sentencing, wrote Justice James H. Brickley.

"In vacating this order, we note that the Oakland County circuit judge had no authority to remand this case to the probate court without conducting the post-conviction sentencing hearing, unless that hearing was waived by the prosecutor and the defendant," Brickley added in a footnote.

Rick Browne, chief assistant prosecutor, said it would take about a month to set up the hearing.

Prosecutor revises stats for county burglaries

By RALPH R. ECHTINAW
STAFF WRITER

Like a thief in the night, the incidence of home and commercial burglaries in Oakland County went from a 3 percent increase to a 14 percent decrease after some investigation.

The Professional Independent Insurance Agents of Michigan recently reported that burglaries declined statewide from 1991 to 1992, but rose 3 percent in Oakland County.

However, Oakland County prosecutor Richard Thompson reports that PIIAM's statistics are misleading because Pontiac didn't report burglaries to the state police for 1989, 1990 and 1991, but did report them for 1992.

PIIAM's figures, which come from the state police, say there were 8,193 burglaries reported in Oakland County in 1992 (including Pontiac), up from 7,955 in 1991 (not including Pontiac).

If you subtract Pontiac's 1,376 reported burglaries from the 1992 total, there are 6,818 burglaries. That would be a 14 percent decrease in Oakland County burglaries from 1991 to 1992.

A better comparison, Thompson said, would be 1988 and 1992 because Pontiac reported in each of those years. With 11,894 burglaries reported in 1988 and 8,193 in 1992, there was a 31 percent drop.

"We didn't feel it was necessary

to check which cities were reporting," said PIIAM spokesman Gary Mitchell.

Statewide, PIIAM reports, there were 96,822 burglaries last year, down 11.5 percent from 99,672 in 1991.

Wayne County reported 30,024 in 1992, Genesee County 6,966, Macomb County 4,389 and Kent County 6,177. Over the last 10 years the number of residential and business breaks in Michigan have dropped 38 percent to 96,822 in 1992.

Many home burglaries occur when the occupants are on vacation. Here are some tips for seeing that it doesn't happen to you:

- Leave blinds open in their usual position.
- Stop deliveries of mail and newspapers, or have a neighbor collect them while you're away.
- Arrange to have your lawn cut.
- Use automatic timers to turn lights on and off in your living room and bedrooms.

CONVENTIONAL AND ADVANCE PAYMENT PROGRAM

lease payments based on '93 Villager GS with PEP 602A MSRP \$20,104. '93 Sable GS with PEP 451A MSRP \$19,404 and Cougar XR7 with PEP 260A MSRP \$16,743 excluding title, taxes, license fee. Lease payment based on an average capitalized cost of 23.25% of MSRP for Villager, 90.42% for Sable and 95.75% for Cougar for 24-month closed-end Ford Credit Red Carpet Leases purchased in the Great Lakes Region for the period 12/02/92-3/03. Some payments higher, some lower. See dealer for payment and terms. Take new retail delivery from dealer stock by 07/22/93. Lessee may have the option to buy vehicle at lease end at a price to be negotiated with the dealer at signing. Lessee responsible for excess wear and tear and \$.11 per mile over 30,000 miles. Credit approval/insurability determined by Ford Credit. Cash savings based on comparison of total of monthly payments under a conventional 24-month Red Carpet Lease plus cash down payment vs. one lease payment under the Advance Payment Program lease. \$8,820 vs. \$7,817 on Villager; \$8,312 vs. \$7,300 on Sable; \$9,002 vs. \$8,228 on Cougar. MSRP for Toyota GS 2-door with PEP354R includes \$300 cash back, excluding title and taxes. *For cash back, take new retail delivery from dealer stock by 07/22/93. *Except on models with privacy glass. *Always wear your safety belt.

MERCURY LINCOLN

ANN ARBOR Apollo
2100 W. Stadium Blvd.
668-6100

DEARBORN Kris
21531 Michigan Ave.
274-8600

DETROIT Bob Maxey
16901 Mack Ave. at Cadieux
885-4000

DETROIT Park Motor
18100 Woodward Ave.
965-5000

FARMINGTON Bob Dusseau
31625 Grand River Ave.
474-3170

GARDEN CITY Stu Evans
32000 Ford Rd.
425-4300

PLYMOUTH Hines Park
40601 Ann Arbor Rd. (at I-75)
425-2444

ROCHESTER HILLS Crissman
1185 South Rochester Rd.
682-4200

ROSEVILLE Arnold
29000 Gratiot at 12 Mile Rd.
445-6000

ROYAL OAK Diamond
221 N. Main St. at 11 Mile Rd.
541-8530

SOUTHFIELD Star
24350 W. 12 Mile Rd.
354-4900

SOUTHDALE Stu Evans
16600 Fort St. at Pennsylvania
285-8800

STERLING HEIGHTS Crest
36200 Van Dyke at 15K Mile Rd.
939-6000

TROY Bob Borst
1950 W. Maple
643-6600

WATERFORD Mel Farr
4178 Highland Rd.
683-9500

YPSILANTI Sesi
950 E. Michigan
555-0112

NITROURY GIVES YOU MORE

LEASE OR BUY

WE'VE GOT YOUR MERCURY!

NOW AT GREAT SAVINGS

Advance Payment Saves \$1,644 Over Conventional 24-Month Lease

First Month's Payment	Conventional 24-Mo. Lease	Payment Program
\$299	N/A	N/A
APP Payment	N/A	\$7,817
Down Payment	\$1,644	N/A
Refundable Security Deposit	\$300	\$350
Cash Due at Signing	\$2,743	\$1,897

\$299 OR **\$7817**

1993 MERCURY VILLAGER GS MINIVAN

The new Villager is nothing less than a new kind of minivan. It combines front-wheel drive, V-6 power and a specially engineered suspension for a remarkable "car-like" ride. Plus, Villager has standard anti-lock brakes and meets all federal passenger car safety standards.

- Anti-Lock Brakes
- V-6 Power • "Car-Like" Ride
- Meets All Federal Passenger Car Safety Standards

Advance Payment Saves \$186 Over Conventional 24-Month Lease

First Month's Payment	Conventional 24-Mo. Lease	Payment Program
\$269	N/A	N/A
APP Payment	N/A	\$7,386
Down Payment	\$1,850	N/A
Refundable Security Deposit	\$275	\$325
Cash Due at Signing	\$2,400	\$2,211

\$269 OR **\$7386**

1993 MERCURY SABLE GS

STANDARD FEATURES: 3.0-liter V-6 engine • Sequential multi-port electronic fuel injection • 4-speed automatic overdrive transmission • Power rack-and-pinion variable-ratio steering • Air conditioner • Tinted glass • Driver- and right-hand passenger-side air bag Supplemental Restraint System • PREFERRED EQUIPMENT PACKAGE 451A: Power side windows • Front and rear carpeted floor mats • Fingertip speed control • Power lock group • Electric rear window defroster • Light group • 6-way power driver's seat • Aluminum wheels • Bodyside paint stripe • Electronic AM/FM stereo cassette radio

Advance Payment Saves \$224 Over Conventional 24-Month Lease

First Month's Payment	Conventional 24-Mo. Lease	Payment Program
\$309	N/A	N/A
APP Payment	N/A	\$8,328
Down Payment	\$1,680	N/A
Refundable Security Deposit	\$325	\$350
Cash Due at Signing	\$2,314	\$1,978

\$309 OR **\$8328**

1993 MERCURY COUGAR XR7

COUGAR STANDARD FEATURES: 3.8-liter V-6 engine • Automatic overdrive transmission • Power rack-and-pinion steering • Air conditioner • Power windows • Dual power outside mirrors • PREFERRED EQUIPMENT PACKAGE 260A: Fingertip speed control • Power lock group • Electric rear window defroster • 6-way power driver's seat • Cast aluminum wheels • Leather-wrapped steering wheel • Electronic AM/FM stereo cassette radio

Advance Payment Saves \$700 Over Conventional 24-Month Lease

First Month's Payment	Conventional 24-Mo. Lease	Payment Program
\$996.53	N/A	N/A
APP Payment	N/A	\$9,965
Down Payment	\$700	N/A
Refundable Security Deposit	\$350	\$350
Cash Due at Signing	\$2,314	\$1,978

\$996.53 OR **\$9965**

1993 MERCURY TOPAZ GS

STANDARD FEATURES: 2.3-liter IHC engine • Sequential multi-port electronic fuel injection • Power assisted rack-and-pinion steering • Child-proof rear door locks (4-door only) • PREFERRED EQUIPMENT PACKAGE 353A (4-door only) • Automatic transmission • Manual air conditioner • Electric rear window defroster • Fingertip speed control • Power windows • Electronic AM/FM stereo cassette radio • PREFERRED EQUIPMENT PACKAGE 354R (2-door only) • Manual air conditioner • Electric rear window defroster • Electronic AM/FM stereo • Deluxe luggage rack • 7-spoke aluminum wheels

CLOSED JULY 5 - JULY 18

To give our employees a much deserved vacation.

Duffell

1800 WOODWARD
DETROIT

\$1 MILLION TO SPEND

U.S. PROOF SETS • MINT SETS
GOVT BOX "C.C. \$1"

U.S. Gold Coins

"Sell Where the Dealers Sell!"

BARNETT RARITIES

119 WOODLIF ST. BIRMINGHAM, ALA
Phone (205) 644-1124

Since 1971

CHRISTMAS IN JULY 20% OFF

Practically Everything stored ENDS 7/31/93

Dolls, Trains, Doll Houses, Playmobil, Eric, Preschool, Wooden Play Structures

DOLL

3947 W. 12 Mile Berkley 543-3115

FOR THE HOLIDAYS