

# Suspect in sex case bound over for trial

BY JONI HUBBARD  
STAFF WRITER  
jhubbard@hous.com.net

The brothers were just 11 and 13 years old when they first spotted the man driving the red Corvette.

He drove past their bus stop, and one of the boys shouted, "Nice car!" The driver, whom they identified in court Monday morning as Jim Thompson, pulled over to talk to them.

That was about two years ago. Over time, argued Oakland County assistant prosecutor Charles Snell, the boys took as many as 25 rides with Thompson, first in the Corvette and at some point last year, in Thompson's new, cherry red Dodge Viper — until something he did made them stop.

"The defendant would tape record every conversation, placing the tape recorder on the victim's lap," Snell explained, during the preliminary examination held at 47th District Court in Farmington Hills. "The defendant would move the recorder by placing his hand under it ... touching the inner thigh, and on one occasion, the penis of the vic-

tim."

Snell alleged Thompson did the same thing with both brothers, over a period of time. Charges are based on the most recent occurrence, which the boys said was toward the end of the last school year.

"I think they finally came to the realization that what he was doing was wrong," Snell said after Thompson was bound over for trial in Circuit Court Monday. "They (the boys) both said they got into the car after that happened, and when asked, they said it was because they liked the Viper."

According to Snell, the brothers are two among what police estimate — and Thompson has said — are more than 1,000 young men with whom the former Detroit News editorial assistant has had contact over the past 30 years. On Feb. 18, Farmington Hills officers took more than 10,000 audio tapes and 700 video tapes, as well as Polaroid photos and lists of names, from Thompson's Southfield home.

Acting on a tip from a Farmington Public Schools bus driver, police arranged a week-long

surveillance, then obtained search and arrest warrants. Snell called the bus driver a "hero," for noticing the Viper trailing the bus and what the boys said about it.

The Viper rides ended around the same time the bus driver contacted school liaison officer Pat Sledge, who in turn reported what she learned to Detective Rose Mackie, Snell explained.

### Investigation continues

The boys testified in a courtroom Judge Maria Parker had closed to the media, due to the ages of the victims and the nature of what they had to say. Snell recounted the statements in open court and met briefly with reporters after the hearing.

Thompson's attorney, Thomas Warshaw, declined comment. He called no witnesses for the defense after Snell concluded his presentation.

While only two victims testified, the investigation into Thompson's alleged activities continues. Hills Police are sifting through thousands of tapes and documents and responding to phone calls generated by pre-

trial publicity.

"People have called and said 'I had a relationship with him years and years ago,'" Snell stated, adding it was too early to tell whether additional charges could be filed in those instances, or any other.

Hills Police Chief Bill Dwyer said he expects this case to take up hundreds of hours of his officers' time.

"We're going to systematically go through all that evidence," he said. "Detective Mackie is in charge, and we're giving her as much support as we can. I think it will take several weeks to complete that task."

Snell said police have already found video tape of boys wrestling and photos of the two victims standing alongside the Viper.

Authorities will also be looking at photos on 150 rolls of undeveloped film.

Thompson will be tried on two counts, criminal sexual conduct in the fourth degree, a 15-year felony and criminal sexual conduct in the second degree, a high misdemeanor that carries a penalty of up to two years.

The level of charges is based on the age of the defendants, Snell said.

# 'Murder for hire' trial scheduled for early May

By Tim Barry  
STAFF WRITER  
tbarry@hous.com.net

A trial date of 8:30 a.m. Monday, May 8, has been scheduled in Oakland County Circuit Court for defendant Lisa McIntosh, the local woman charged with hiring someone she thought was a hit man to kill her live-in boyfriend.

Assistant Prosecutor Gregory Townsend said McIntosh recently was arraigned before Oakland Circuit Judge Jessica Cooper, who will also preside over McIntosh's trial.

"We just got a trial date for May 8," said Townsend Thursday, noting that there was nothing else new about the case. "It's pretty straightforward."

McIntosh faces a charge of solicitation to commit murder, a first-degree felony punishable by up to life in prison. She was ordered Feb. 4 by 47th District Judge Frederick Harris to remain electronically tethered and under her parents' supervision.

At the arraignment in circuit court, Cooper ordered that the previously-set terms be continued. Eric Schmidt, who is in charge of prisoner tethering for Oakland County Trial Services,

said Friday.

"Nothing was altered from what was ordered at the lower court," Schmidt said.

McIntosh remains tethered and must check in daily at 35th District Court in Plymouth. Any violation of those terms would result in McIntosh being sent to the Oakland County Jail on a personal bond of \$100,000.

Charges against McIntosh, a 29-year-old Westland woman, stem from an apparent plot to kill her allegedly abusive 25-year-old boyfriend.

McIntosh, on Feb. 4, was bound over for a circuit court trial at a preliminary examination in 47th District Court. Judge Harris made the ruling after listening to a taped conversation between McIntosh and an undercover Michigan State Police detective, the latter posing as a hit man.

That meeting, according to court testimony before Harris, took place in the north parking lot of the Big Boy restaurant on Farmington Road just north of Eight Mile in Farmington.

## FREE Seminar on Living Trusts

"How to Avoid Probate & Minimize Estate Taxes — So Your Estate Will Pass on to Your Family, Intact!"

Attend One of These FREE Seminars



Attend One of These Seminars and You'll Find Out...

- ✓ How to plan your estate to make sure it passes on to your family, intact.
- ✓ How to protect your estate if you become incapacitated during your lifetime.
- ✓ The right and wrong way to leave property to your children.
- ✓ How to plan your estate to minimize federal estate taxes.
- ✓ The advantages and disadvantages of certain trusts and wills.
- ✓ How to maintain privacy of your family's personal affairs.

Robert R. Florka

Attorney at Law  
(248) 637-6300

1905 W. Big Beaver • Suite 210 • Troy • MI • 48034

Robert R. Florka is a dynamic speaker on estate planning. He is a member of the American Academy of Estate Planning Attorneys — his seminars are said to be "informative, interesting & easy-to-understand".

Don't Delay — Call (248) 637-6300 Now to Reserve Your Seat!

24-Hour Seminar Reservation Line or register online at [www.florkala.com](http://www.florkala.com)

The City of Southfield Community Relations Department presents the

# INTERNATIONAL CAFE

An award-winning program featuring special international dinners and entertainment. Don't miss this enriching opportunity to experience the foods, music, and dance of the world's cultures.

### An Evening of African-American Culture

Soul Food Dinner catered by Beans & Cornbread followed by a performance by the Graystone Jazz Ensemble  
Tuesday, March 21 at 6:30 pm  
Tickets: \$22 per person

### An Evening in the Middle East

Chaldean Dinner catered by La Fendi Restaurant followed by Dancing & Entertainment by the Rafid al Afrah Band  
Friday, May 19 at 8:00 pm  
Tickets: \$22 per person

The cafés will be held in the Southfield Pavilion at the Southfield Civic Center, 26000 Evergreen Road between Civic Center Drive and 11 Mile Road (just south of I-696)

Tickets available at Southfield City Hall main reception desk weekdays (8 am to 5 pm), or at the Parks & Recreation Building evenings (5-7 pm) and Saturdays (9 am-2 pm). Reservations are required.

For more information, call 248/354-4854

City of Southfield • Community Relations Department  
26000 Evergreen Road, P.O. Box 2055 • Southfield, MI 48037-2055

# 61st ANNIVERSARY

## WALL-TO-WALL CARPET

# SALE

Save up to 40% on quality wall-to-wall carpet.

**Guaranteed Lowest Prices**  
Quality doesn't cost more at Hagopian. We will meet or beat any local competitor's price.

**Huge Brand Name Selection**  
We offer quality carpet known for durability, style and value. Including the finest carpets from Karastan, Masland, Stainmaster and others.

**Quality Service**  
We have the knowledge to help you select the right carpet for your needs and budget.

**Expert Installation**  
Proper installation is the first step in taking care of carpet and no one knows more about maintaining your carpet's beauty than Hagopian.

**Karastan**  
GALLERY DEALER

**6 Months**  
No Buyback  
Deferred Interest  
For Qualified Buyers with \$499 Minimum Purchase

Since 1939

# HAGOPIAN

Everything But Ordinary

RUGS • CARPET • HOME ACCENTS

NOV1: 43223 Twelve Mile Road • C248449-RUGS  
Hagopian locations also in: Birmingham C248646-RUGS & Oak Park C248546-RUGS  
THE ORIGINAL HAGOPIAN CLEANING SERVICES: 1-800-HAGOPIAN

Sale price does not apply to prior sales.