



# Genesee County Prosecutor's Office

## David Leyton, Prosecutor

### Flint man charged in slaying over weed to stand trial

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**By Paul Janczewski**

An argument over a bag of weed in February 2006 led to a man being shot to death, a witness said during a court hearing.

Now, Julian L. Mitchell of Flint will stand trial in that shooting.

Flint District Judge Herman Marable Jr. scheduled a Jan. 14 circuit court arraignment for Mitchell, 20, on charges of murder, felony murder, assault with intent to rob while armed and felony firearms use in the slaying of Reginald L. Smith II.

Marable dismissed a charge of carrying a concealed weapon against Mitchell at the conclusion of the preliminary examination.

Kellie R. Rogers, 20, told assistant Genesee County Prosecutor Karen Hanson she was at a party at the Orchard Ridge apartment complex on W. Pierson Road, east of Clio Road Feb. 11, 2006.

Rogers said she was dating Mitchell at the time.

She said Smith, 24, came to the party about 11:30 p.m. and was to buy a bag of marijuana from Mitchell but later refused to pay him.

Rogers said the two began to argue and then fight. Another man who was with Mitchell joined in, striking Smith so hard with a pot that it bent.

Later, that man handed Mitchell a handgun, and Rogers said it went off during the tussle.

Smith died from a single gunshot to the face, according to an autopsy report.

Attorney Thomas R. McCombs, who represents Mitchell, argued he should stand trial only on a charge of second-degree murder because this was "a fist fight that got out of hand."

Mitchell was recently determined competent for trial after an examination at a state facility. He is being held without bond at the Genesee County Jail.

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