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# Confession at issue in murder trial

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Attorneys are expected to start picking a jury Tuesday in the murder trial of two men charged with first-degree murder, robbery and larceny of a firearm in the death of a Kernersville man in 2005.

On trial are Kevin Jessup, 40, and Dwight Clodfelter, 20. Marcus Bowen Jr., 27, is the third defendant in the case and is expected to testify against Jessup and Clodfelter, David Hall, an assistant district attorney, said in Forsyth Superior Court today.

The three are accused of breaking into Kim Tuttle's home in Kernersville on Sept. 27, 2005, then beating and shooting Tuttle when they found him at home. Prosecutors believe the men were stealing guns to sell to settle a debt they owed and that they meant to break into the house of a neighbor of Tuttle's. Clodfelter had been to the neighbor's house before and knew it had guns inside, Hall said.

Instead, they went to Tuttle's and, surprised when they heard Tuttle at home, beat him and then Clodfelter shot him, Hall said.



Police arrested the three men nearly a year later, after guns stolen from Tuttle were traced to Clodfelter and Bowen, who both confessed, Hall said.

Clodfelter's attorney, Ben Porter, tried to get Judge Todd Burke to throw out Clodfelter's confession today, arguing that Kernersville police and an SBI agent interrogated Clodfelter and detained him without reading him his Miranda rights.

Before giving a full confession, Clodfelter had told detectives he would tell them everything if they would let him leave and return the next morning. Detectives testified that they didn't see that as a clear request to leave and that Clodfelter was always free to go.

Burke ruled against Porter. He said that Clodfelter did not clearly request to leave and didn't take any action to leave.

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Posted by ( achievementtisselflessness ) on 09/08/2008 at 08:46 pm.

The families of the man who was killed must have pain that we can never understand. I feel for them each and everyday. They have lost someone and only have memories of him. May God comfort them. The families of the men charged with this murder have pain that we can't understand as well. They are losing their loved ones to the prison system. Yes they will be able to visit them and yes they still have their life. It saddens me that we don't have better male role model for young men so that they don't end up in this position. Taking the life of another human is never okay, now the lives of these three men and their families will add to the taking of lives. May all the the families is the horrible situation find comfort in someone, somehow, somewhere. "achievementtisselflessness"

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Posted by ( ladybassfisher ) on 09/09/2008 at 05:38 am.

I hope this will have some closure, I don't understand why they had to kill him. The family will be in my prayers.....

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