

Anderson trial: Deadlocked

Written by Lauren Ohnesorge
Monday, 16 July 2007 20:00

The first-degree murder trial of Jerry Anderson may result in a hung jury.

The third day of deliberations was yesterday- and a note from the jury's forewoman suggests the jury is deadlocked. The note said "opinions have been stated and are unwavering... collectively, we are unsure what to do at this point." Prosecutors would have to decide whether or not to re-try the case, should a hung jury occur. Anderson's trial began in Gaston County on May 14. Anderson is accused of shooting his wife, Emily Anderson, and stuffing her body in the tool box of her pickup truck.

Shortly after the mid-morning break, jurors asked the judge to restate the jury instructions he gave them prior to the start of their deliberations. Cayer advised the jury, both about reasonable doubt and the necessary circumstances for first-degree murder.

Should Anderson be convicted, the state is seeking the death penalty.

The note delivered by the jury forewoman reads as follows:

"Your Honor, we the jury feel that we are currently at a deadlock. Opinions have been stated and are unwavering. Deliberations have ceased among some jurors. Some jurors are not basing decisions on the evidence presented. Collectively, we are unsure what to do at this point."