

# **Three Franklin Men Indicted in Death of Dayton Youth**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**DAVID P. FORNSHELL  
(513) 695-1325**

Three Franklin area residents were indicted by the Warren County Grand Jury for the December 1, 2013 murder of Dione Payne. Payne, 16, was dropped off at the Atrium Medical Center and subsequently died of massive injuries at the Miami Valley Hospital.

Michael Geldrich, 36, and Michael Watson, 39, were both indicted for Aggravated Murder, Kidnapping, Aggravated Robbery, Rape, and Tampering with Evidence. They face life sentences without parole for Aggravated Murder and an additional 36 years on the other charges. The grand jury was presented, but declined to indict on, capital specifications for the Aggravated Murder. Geldrich and Watson remain in the Warren County Jail on a \$1 million bond.

Adam Patrick, 30, who was not previously arrested, was indicted for his complicity to the Aggravated Robbery. He faces a maximum of 11 years in prison.

In the early morning hours of December 1, Geldrich and Watson planned to rob Payne of Dayton, Ohio. They entered a residence where he was staying, tied him up, and severely beat him in an attempt to steal money and drugs. Payne suffered multiple injuries, including brain injuries, which led to his death. Evidence also suggests that the defendants used an object to penetrate the victim's anal cavity for the purposes of locating the drugs.

Patrick was involved in planning the Aggravated Robbery only and was not present. Geldrich, Watson, and Patrick split the proceeds of the property stolen from Payne.

Tamiko Payne, mother of the victim Dione Payne, issued the following statement through the Warren County Prosecutor's Office:

"I would like to thank the Franklin detectives and police for doing an awesome job. I would like to thank my family and friends who stood by my side during this tragedy. I am confident that justice will be served. I would also ask for the media to respect my privacy, and I do not wish to make any further statements."



Warren County Prosecutor  
David P. Fornshell  
(513) 695-1325

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