

Spooner Found Guilty Of Homicide

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The jury has found the man accused of shooting his 13 year old neighbor guilty of first degree intentional homicide.

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John Spooner's defense attorney urged the jury to find his client guilty of reckless homicide, rather than intentional homicide. Spooner shot his 13 year old neighbor after accusing him of stealing.

The verdict is only one of two phases for the trial. In phase two, the defense will try to persuade the jury that Spooner has a mental disease or defect. The defense has the burden on proof in this phase. The second phase of the trial should start later this afternoon. Spooner's attorney, Franklyn Gimbel, says he has an expert who will testify that Spooner was mentally incompetent at the time.