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Judge to name attorneys in Bolton murder case

By DARRELL DUNN
Tribune-Herald staff writer

A bond hearing for two Cleburne men charged with murdering Melodie Bolton of West could be set for early 1986.

Waco attorney Ken Ables said Friday he expects to be retained to represent 37-year-old Clifton Eugene Belyeu and that, if appointed, he will file a motion for a bond hearing "after the first of the year."

Belyeu and 21-year-old Earnest Ray Moore were arrested Dec. 11, less than 12 hours after Jerrel Bolton found his wife murdered in the bedroom of their residence in northern McLennan County.

Mrs. Bolton had been stabbed repeatedly and shot in the head with a shotgun.

West Justice of the Peace David Pareya appointed Ables to represent Belyeu and Waco attorney Doug Henager to represent Moore.

On Dec. 17, however, a McLennan County grand jury indicted Belyeu and Moore for capital murder, removing the case from Pareya's jurisdiction and placing it in state District Judge George Allen's 54th District Court.

Allen has yet to appoint attorneys to represent Belyeu and Moore, but Ables said he believes he will be reappointed.

Henager said he did not know whether he will be reappointed to represent Moore.

Belyeu and Moore are being held without bond in the McLennan County Jail.

After Allen appoints legal counsel for the two men, their attorneys may file for a bond hearing, in which Allen would determine if the pair should be allowed to post bail and leave jail while awaiting trial.

McLennan County District Attorney Vic Feazell has said he personally will handle prosecution of Belyeu and Moore, and said the first trial could be held in Waco in the spring.

Since Belyeu has a prior felony conviction for a Collin County robbery, it is expected that Moore's attorney will file to have the cases severed and tried separately.