

Lucas Case Attorneys Appointed

Alleged serial killer Henry Lee Lucas has two new attorneys to represent him on a Smith County capital murder charge.

Louis Gohmert, 7th District Court Judge, has appointed Tyler attorney Sam Griffith and Vic Feazell of Austin to represent Lucas who was indicted for the 1982 slaying of Catheryan Powell, 35, of Winona.

The victim was strangled, shot and sexually assaulted. Law enforcement officers say Lucas confessed to killing the woman in her home near Interstate 20. The defendant recanted after confessing to hundreds of slayings in 26 states.

Gohmert set a trial date for April 25, 1994. A pretrial hearing will be held at 9 a.m. on March 10, 1994. Gohmert previously set a tentative trial date for this week, but Lucas' former attorney, Parker McCullough, withdrew from the case because he became a full-time lobbyist.

When appointing Feazell, Gohmert noted that the Austin attorney is representing Lucas on other matters and should be able to move quickly and efficiently on the case. Feazell proposed representing Lucas without charging Smith County for travel and lodging making his cost to the county the same as that of local attorneys.