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Testimony to begin in Graf trial

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Testimony in the capital murder trial of Edward E. Graf Jr. is scheduled to begin at 1:30 p.m. today in Waco's 19th State District Court.

Graf, 36, is charged with two counts of capital murder in the August 1986 fire deaths of his two stepsons, Jason, 8, and Joby, 9. The boys were found inside a burned shed behind Graf's former resi-

dence at 505 Angel Fire Drive in Hewitt. The fire was determined to be arson.

Two jurors and two alternate jurors were selected Friday after 54th State District Judge George Allen was forced to excuse two jurors who previously had been sworn in.

Allen excused a juror who works at a women's wear shop owned by a woman who is a friend of Graf's ex-wife. He also excused another woman who told him she had misunderstood questions about

the death penalty.

Earlier in the 13-day jury selection process, Allen excused a juror who said his boss might replace him during an extended trial.

The jury is made up of 10 men and two women. Both alternates are men.

Allen said the trial will open in 19th State District Court because the larger 54th Court is needed today to seat a large panel during jury selection in an attempted murder trial. After that jury is

selected, Graf's trial will move back to 54th Court, Allen said.

Prosecution testimony should take about two weeks, McLennan County District Attorney Vic Feazell has said. Feazell, Karen Amos and Mark Jaynes will prosecute the case.

Defense attorneys Charles M. McDonald and Lynn Malone expect defense testimony to last about 10 days.

If convicted, Graf faces death by injection or life in prison.