

Woodworth seeks third trial in hopes of changing murder conviction

News

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The Missouri Supreme Court has heard the argument of Bob Ramsey, the attorney for Mark Woodworth—convicted two times for the 1990 shooting death of Cathy Robertson at her home outside of Chillicothe. Woodworth is serving four life sentences.

Ramsey says the state has not answered his allegations that testimony regarding another possible suspect and the handling of the murder weapon was not made available to attorneys in Woodworth's second trial. Ramsey says jurors in the second trial did not hear evidence regarding the handling of the murder weapon and another possible suspect. He says the evidence could merit more than a new trial.

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The state's attorney argues none of the evidence Ramsey presents.. is new, and says none of it changes the findings that resulted in Woodworth's conviction.

Ramsey alleges that several pieces of evidence were kept from defense attorney's in Woodworth's second trial that, considered together, show a pattern of an attempt to pin the murder on his client.

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One of the arguments of the attorney for Woodworth is that defense attorney's were not made aware that the murder weapon in the case was taken by a private detective to England, when two labs in Missouri could not confirm it fired the fatal shots. Assistant Attorney General Theodore Bruce argues otherwise.

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It could take months for the Supreme Court to issue an ruling.