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June 4. 1988

Indictment means war

In the McNamee grand jury probe

By Gerard Dziuba Herald community editor

GENEVA — If former Carpentersville resident Thomas Delanev is indicted for the murder of Timothy McNamee, there will be a war, said St. Charles attorney J. Brick Van Der Snick.

"On one side there will be the feds, the Illinois Attorney General's Office and Carpentersville Police. On the other side will be me and Tom Delaney. I will be the only thing standing between Delaney and the electric chair," Van Der Snick said.

His statement came moments after Delaney testified for a second time before the special grand jury investigating the 1987 shooting death of the Carpentersville attorney.

torney, would not comment on what jurors asked his client, buthe said the line of questioning was monotonous. It also gave him the idea that the scope of the investigation is widening.

"They (police) have been talking to his (Delaney's) business associates and friends. They also have been basing their questions on what Cedric Whiteside has told police," he said.

Whiteside, an Elgin resident, told police last year he was with Delaney when he allegedly shot McNamee outside his law firm June 8.

Van Der Snick contends that

Whiteside is lying and that Delaney is innocent of the crime. Van Der Snick, Delaney's at- Whiteside is being held in a downstate jail on armed robbery charges. According to the attorney, Whiteside knows Delaney's son, but he does not know why he is telling police Delaney shot McNamee.

"Maybe he is trying to get the \$50,000 reward. I don't know," Van Der Snick said.

Shortly after McNamee died. his twin brother Thom announced that he is offering a reward of up to \$50,000 for the arrest and conviction of the murderer.

Van Der Snick said he was told

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Scott J. Brooks / Herald staff

Thomas and Cheryl Delaney take a break from his grand jury testimony outside a Kane County courtroom Friday.

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by a source close to the police probe that Delaney was paid \$75,000 to kill McNamee after a \$90,000 drug deal had gone bad with the slain attorney.

"That's absurd. There are so many rumors flying around in

this case," he said.

Nonetheless he expects Delaney, 40, to be indicted with several other people. As police question other suspects expected to be indicted they will implicate Delaney in the shooting, Van Der Snick said.

Three months after the murder Delaney, a construction worker. moved from Carpentersville to Memphis, Tenn. In April, members of the special task force investigating the shooting extradited him to Illinois after he violated terms of his probation on a drunken driving conviction. Delaney's probation was extended another year. He was allowed to live with his mother in Elgin and now he wants to return to Tennessee to work in his family's construction business.

On May 6, Van Der Snick will informally ask that Delaney be permitted to return to Tennessee.

"Because of all this press, Mr. Delaney's father has developed an ulcer. Earlier this week he was hospitalized," Van Der Snick

On the anniversary of McNamee's death, Delaney will hold a news conference in his attorney's office.

Van Der Snick predicted that Delaney will be ordered again before the special grand jury later this month.

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