

Former Fresno Police Chaplain Convicted Of Voluntary Manslaughter Asks For Verdict To Be Thrown Out

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A former Fresno Police Chaplain, convicted of voluntary manslaughter, is asking his verdict be thrown out.

Paul Hurth is scheduled to have an evidentiary hearing Tuesday to deal with the matter.

Hurth was convicted in 2000 of voluntary manslaughter in the death of car salesman Ralph Peter Gawor.

Hurth had been having an affair with Gawor's wife, Nancy and claimed he had gone to Ralph Gawor's house on the night of February 18th, 2000 to confess his affair. Hurth said he was forced to shoot Gawor in self-defense, following a struggle. The prosecution claimed that Hurth plotted the shooting.

According to Hurth's lawyer, there was jury misconduct in the case due to the usage of dictionary definitions which were used to determine whether the verdict should have been involuntary or voluntary manslaughter. Hurth's lawyer says this should have not been the case.

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