

[Tweet](#) 0
[Like](#) [Share](#) 0
[+1](#) 0

Local news

- Monroe teacher Randy Brown on a national watch list for innovation March 11
- \$7 million spent in Oso relief, some critical of process March 11
- Lake Stevens third-graders suspended for viewing, sharing porn March 11
- Woman and her dogs rescued from mountains near Verlot March 11
- Permanent cables link Arlington, Darrington once again March 10
- Wrecking ball looms for old Everett building March 11

Local news

Highlights



Thief bait

The state's 10 most-stolen cars



J.P. Patches

Photos, stories of the Northwest's iconic clown



Humoody's Way

Blinded at 2, Snohomish boy lives with no holds barred

Calendar

MARCH 2015						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Circuit Training
Wed, Mar. 11, 5:30am
Forest Park, 802 E Mukilteo Blvd, Everett.

Low-Cost Community Acupuncture
Wed, Mar. 11, 9am
Stillaguamish Senior Center

HeraldNet Headlines

Delivered to your inbox each week.

Your email

SUBMIT

See sample
More newsletters
Privacy policy

advertisement | your ad here

amazon.com

Published: Tuesday, May 23, 2001, 12:01 a.m.

EMAIL ARTICLE | PRINT | JUMP TO COMMENTS

Turgeon jury may be deadlocked

Note to judge says vote is stalled 11-1 for conviction in murder trial

arc_a20111421

Scott North / Herald Writer

@snorthnews

By Scott North

Herald Writer

A Snohomish County jury may be deadlocked in trying to decide whether two members of a now-defunct religious sect are guilty of murder in the March 1998 shooting death of a Mountlake Terrace man. Jurors in the trial of Christopher Turgeon, 37, and Blaine Applin, 30, ended their deliberations Monday with a note to the judge, saying they can't agree on a verdict and there is "no apparent prospect" for resolution. The note, which was partially read in court Monday afternoon, indicates the jurors are split 11-to-1 in favor of conviction, but offers few other details. Applin's attorney, Pete Mazzone of Everett, urged Superior Court Judge Joseph Thibodeau to declare a mistrial. "I think the jury has spoken. They have spoken loudly," he said. Turgeon's attorneys, Royce Ferguson and Guss Markwell, told the judge they thought the note raised more questions than answers. Deputy prosecutor David Kurtz asked the judge to simply wait. The trial took about three weeks, and jurors have spent

just one day, deliberating, the prosecutor said. "Too much has been invested thus far to really create a situation of bringing this to a close this afternoon," Kurtz said. Thibodeau decided to send jurors home for the evening and instruct them to

resume deliberations today. He said he will revisit the situation if necessary. Turgeon and Applin are former members of a cult-like religious group called The Gatekeepers, which Turgeon led, first in Snohomish County, and later near San Diego, Calif. The pair are charged with first-degree murder in the death of Dan Jess, 40, a former member of the group. Turgeon and Applin insist the killing was justified and ordered by God. Prosecutors counter it was cold-blooded murder, and that Turgeon and Applin drove from The Gatekeepers' former home in Southern California and ambushed Jess in his home because he could expose the group's financial frauds. Lawyers for both defendants are trying to convince jurors that the pair are innocent by reason of insanity. The defense takes advantage of an aspect of Washington law that allows lawyers to argue the alleged killers are blameless because their free will was overcome by what they saw as a holy decree. Applin shot Jess while Turgeon drove the getaway car, jurors have been told. The killing was just one of a series of crimes across two states, which culminated in July 1998 with the pair being arrested in California after a robbery led to a police chase that involved gunfire. Applin and Turgeon already are facing lengthy prison terms for their California crimes. You can call Herald Writer Scott North at 425-339-3431 or send e-mail to north@heraldnet.com.

Share your comments: Log in using your HeraldNet account or your Facebook, Twitter or Disqus profile. Comments that violate the rules are subject to removal. Please see our [terms of use](#). **Please note that you must verify your email address for your comments to appear.**

Subscribe now

Unlimited digital access starting at 99 cents, or included with any print subscription.

[What is this?](#)
[FAQ](#)
[Log in](#)
[Subscribe](#)

DAILY DEAL

\$1200 for Skin Tightening a \$2500 value!

advertisement | your ad here

amazon.com

Fire TV Stick
\$39.00

Photo galleries

» More HeraldNet galleries



Studying the Oso mudslide: Mar 8



Gavin and the Dragon: Feb 14



USS Stennis leaves for training: Jan 14



Ursulmas, A Medieval Faire 2015: Jan 25

HeraldNet Classifieds

Jobs

Top employers in Snohomish County

IS Network Coordinator
Arlington, WA

Autos

Search for cars from local dealers



\$18,000
2000 Dodge Caravan

Homes

Search local real estate listings



Stuff

Services, garage sales, pets, items for sale



WeeklyAds



irds
ys Left

JCPenney
Preview the Deals

Big L
Expit