

Does Orlando twin accused in Eustis double murder have an alibi?

If convicted, twins Dante Hall and Donte Hall would be the nation's first set of twins to receive death sentences.

By Stephen Hudak, Orlando Sentinel

10:45 p.m. EDT, March 16, 2010

TAVARES – Lawyers for an Orlando twin accused of a double murder in Eustis may have found an alibi witness as the much-delayed death-penalty case starts this week.

Defense lawyers John Spivey and [Michael Graves](#) discovered last week that Deandrew "Little D" Scott, 20, who is serving a five-year prison term for armed robbery, claims that [Dante Hall](#) could not have been involved in the deadly shooting because Hall was gambling with him in Orlando.

If convicted of the first-degree murder charges and sentenced to die, Dante Hall, 25, would join Donte Hall, his identical twin brother and alleged accomplice in the September 2006 killings on Florida's death row. They would be the nation's first set of twins to receive death sentences – Donte Hall was sentenced to death in December.

Scott says he was pressured and threatened with a perjury charge if he testified that Hall was with him, according to a defense motion seeking last-minute depositions of Scott and Eustis police detective Dave Carney.

Assistant State Attorney Bill Gross vehemently denied that he or Carney acted improperly.

The Hall brothers were accused in the slayings of Anthony Bernard Blunt, 35, of Mount Dora and Kison Evans, 32, of Tavares, who were guests at a party on Gottsche Avenue where masked men burst in and opened fire.

Two other men were critically injured but survived.

Gross has argued that the twins and two other as-yet uncharged men had hoped to score cash, jewelry and drugs at the private party, where Donte Hall's stripper-girlfriend, Angel Glenn, and two friends were entertaining.

She provided the twins with directions to the home and is awaiting sentencing for her role.

Glenn, 22, who has been given "limited immunity," has provided key testimony that places the twins inside the party house. She has testified that she recognized two of the armed men as the twins by their voices.

One was toting an AK-47 assault rifle.

Two previous trials for Dante Hall have ended in mistrials, including one that was declared after Glenn testified that she was required to undergo a lie-detector test before prosecutors would consider offering immunity.

A third trial was scrubbed as jury selection was to begin because prosecutors could not secure an expert to testify about cell phone records, evidence which, detectives say, puts the Orlando twins in Eustis at the time of the murders.

Circuit Judge T. [Michael Johnson](#), who declared his personal opposition to the state's death penalty when he nonetheless sentenced Donte Hall to die, is presiding over the trial, which began Monday with jury selection.

The judge dismissed more than 30 potential jurors during the selection process after they admitted that they knew Hall's brother was convicted with similar evidence of the same crime last year and sentenced to death.

Stephen Hudak can be reached at shudak@orlandosentinel.com or 352-742-5930.

Copyright © 2010, [Orlando Sentinel](#)