

Trailside Murders Carpenter's lawyers want another delay

SANTA CRUZ — Attorneys for Trailside murder suspect David Carpenter were in court this morning to request another delay in the case.

District Attorney Art Danner had hoped to set a date for sending the case to Los Angeles. Until the case is formally sent to that city, a trial date cannot be set.

However, defense attorneys Larry Biggam and Gerry Christensen said at this point they have not been able to review all the evidence amassed by the prosecution. In particular, they have not received some evidence from Marin County, where Carpenter is charged with five murder counts and more than a dozen special allegations.

Until they get the evidence, the attorneys say they cannot proceed.

Superior Court Judge Harry Brauer ordered the attorneys to prepare a written list of evidence they need and to give it to the district attorney by Wednesday.

Brauer also set Nov. 15 as the next date to review the status of the case. He noted in court that the Los Angeles presiding judge has requested that all disputes over evidence be resolved before the case is officially transferred to Los Angeles.

Carpenter, 52, will be tried on two murder charges and an attempted murder charge in Los Angeles for a series of slayings that occurred in Santa Cruz County in the spring on 1981.

Additionally, Carpenter faces the death penalty if the special allegations are proven. The allegations include that he raped his victims.

Carpenter was arrested in May 1981 at his parents' San Francisco home.