

# Local



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## Missing juror causes delay in Trailside trial

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The absence of a juror caused a one-day delay in the penalty phase trial of convicted Trailside Slayer David Carpenter, a prosecutor said.

"We had a missing juror who basically misunderstood the court schedule, based on statements which were made in court last week," Santa Cruz County Assistant District Attorney Jim Berglund said Monday afternoon.

"We expect that he will be in court

Tuesday and we hope to resume then," Berglund said. He did not know the juror's name.

Compton police were asked to track down the man, and officers contacted some of his neighbors "who said he had told them he was under the impression that he didn't have to be in court today," Berglund said.

The jury must decide if Carpenter, 54, should die in the gas chamber or be imprisoned for life without parole.

"We're hoping that we'll finish up all testimony on Wednesday or Thursday at the latest and have arguments next week, with the case going to the jury next Tuesday or Wednesday at the latest," Berglund said.

Carpenter was convicted July 6 of killing Heather Scaggs and Ellen Marie Hansen, both 20, in separate attacks on remote Santa Cruz County hiking trails. He also was convicted of raping Scaggs, attempting to rape Hansen and attempting

to murder Hansen's boyfriend, Stephen Haertle, then 20.

Carpenter had served 17 years in prison on convictions of attempted murder, rape, robbery and kidnapping before his 1981 arrest in the Trailside cases.

Following the Santa Cruz County case, which was tried in Los Angeles because of extensive publicity in Northern California, Carpenter faces trial in Marin County on five charges of murdering people on hiking trails there in 1980.