

Accused not criminally responsible in double murder

By Mark Pavilons

A Schomberg man has been acquitted in a 2011 double homicide.

In Newmarket court March 12, the Honourable Justice Edwin B. Minden found 51-year-old Robert Abernethy not criminally responsible for the death of James Wilson, 76, of Orangeville and William Allan Jones, 76, of Schomberg.

The homicides took place the morning of Tuesday, Aug. 30, 2011. Police were called to an industrial business on Lloydtown-Aurora Road, east of Highway 27, initially for a report of two injured men. When officers arrived on scene they discovered one man deceased and other man seriously wounded. He later died in hospital.

Robert Abernethy was arrested at the scene and was originally charged with two counts of second degree murder.

Abernethy will now be before the Ontario Review board, according to police.

Initial media reports noted Abernethy appeared disoriented at the scene. During one of his first court appearances at the end of August 2011, Abernethy behaved erratically.