

# in second mistrial

Juror sounds off on Facebook

BY SAMANTHA VICENT

Tulsa World  
samantha.vicent  
@tulsaworld.com

**TULSA** — More than 2½ years after former Tulsa police officer Shannon Kepler was charged with first-degree murder in the shooting death of his daughter's new boyfriend, the case remains unresolved after another mistrial was declared early Saturday.

District Judge Sharon Holmes ordered the second mistrial in the case due to jurors' inability to unanimously agree on a verdict, deadlocking 10-2 on a guilty verdict.

After Holmes released jurors from service at 2:30 a.m. Saturday, one of the jurors who deliberated wrote a public Facebook post expressing anger against what was described as two older jurors who "could not look past their own prejudice towards black people" and refused to even discuss the case with the rest of the panel.

Prosecutors said, despite another setback, they plan to take Kepler to trial again on a first-degree murder charge.

Kepler, 56, is accused of killing 19-year-old Jeremy Lake while off duty in the 200 block of North Mavhelle Avenue near

tial African-American descent, had just entered into a relationship with Kepler's daughter, Lisa Kepler, and posted on Facebook the day of his death that they were in a relationship.

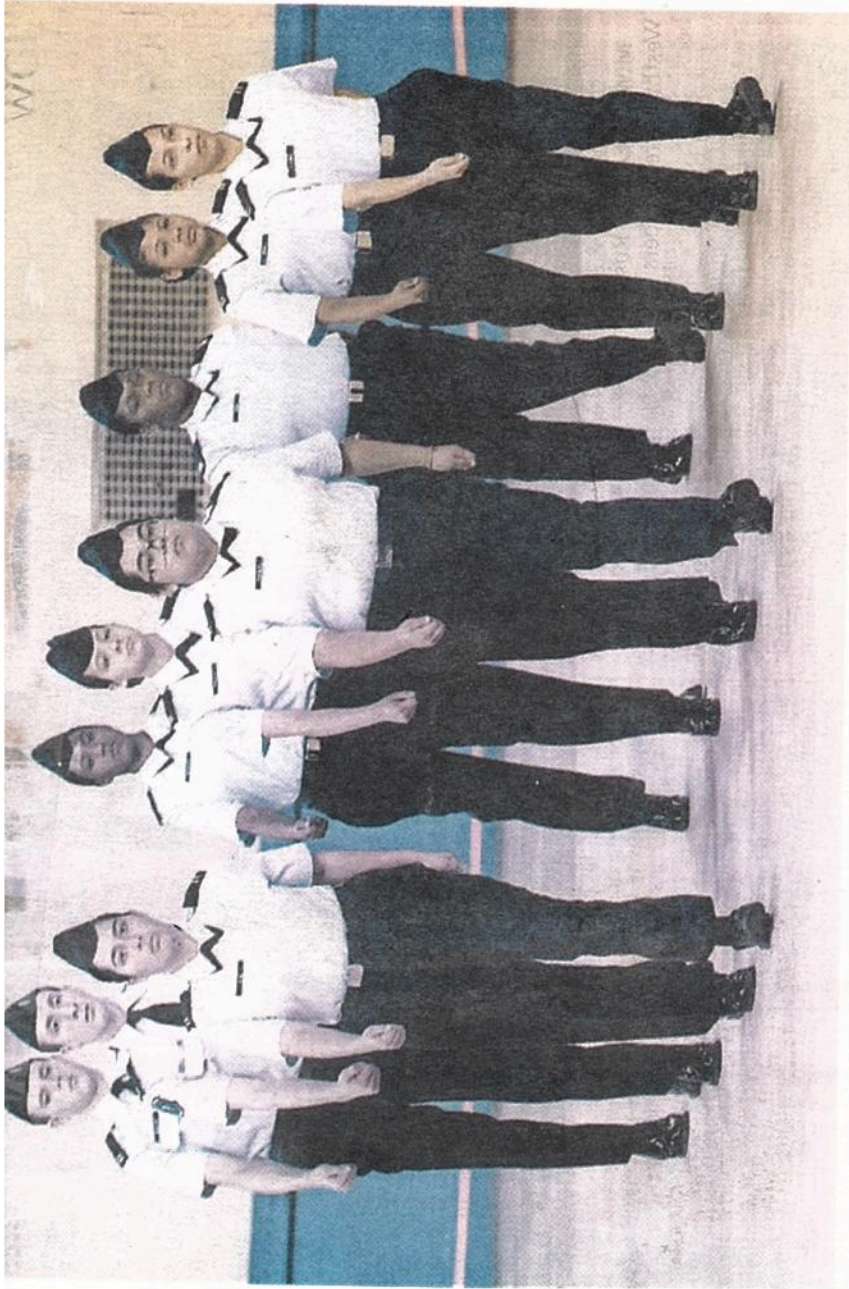
Lisa Kepler had been staying with Lake at the home the week he died. They met at a nearby homeless shelter that her parents had taken her to the week before in an attempt to "scare her straight."

The first trial deadlocked Nov. 11, with 11 of the 12 jurors agreeing on a guilty verdict.

Shannon Kepler testified in his own defense on Thursday and said he figured out Lake's address after conducting a search of him at work using the Tulsa police records system, which he conceded was a violation of policy but said he was willing to break rules to protect his daughter.

He told the jury he was concerned for Lisa Kepler's safety based on information he learned about Lake in the records search and wanted to go to Lake's house to check on her.

Kepler is out of custody on bond pending an appeal of two lesser-included misdemeanor convictions he received at his November trial for reckless conduct with a firearm related to Lisa Kepler and Lake's younger brother Michael



The Southeast High School Air Force JROTC competes Saturday. (PHOTOS BY PAUL HELLSTERN, THE OKLAHOMAN)

# Marching maneuvers

Eleven teams from across Oklahoma competed Saturday in the first Junior ROTC Drill Team State Championships at the Jim Norick Arena at State Fair Park in Oklahoma City. The teams represented the U.S. Army, U.S. Air Force and the Marine Corps.

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