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WISE COUNTY

Murder trial rescheduled for May

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A teenager facing a murder charge has a new trial date for later this spring.

The trial of William Wyatt Oakes, 17, of Rhome had been scheduled for this week, but prosecutors last month filed a motion for continuance. Oakes' attorney, Reagan Wynn, did not object to the delay, according to court records.

Late last week, a new trial date of May 14 was set for 271st District Court in Decatur.

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Trial: Case moved to May

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Oakes is charged with shooting and killing his father, David Oakes, in their home on Private Road 4732 in the Diamond Ridge neighborhood near Rhome Aug. 18, 2017.

Officers responded to a call about a disturbance at the home around 10 p.m. that Friday night. Officers arrived to find David Oakes, 49, with multiple gunshot wounds. He was pronounced dead at the scene.

William Oakes fled the scene on a motorcycle. He was located in Albuquerque, N.M., and was arrested the following Monday.

Oakes was indicted last March for the first degree felony charge of murder.

Although Oakes was a few weeks shy of his 16th birthday at the time of the incident, he was certified to stand trial as an adult.

In other murder cases pending in district court, Johnny Ray Armstrong's

trial is currently set for Feb. 5.

Investigators said Armstrong, a Bridgeport resident, shot 20-year-old Ruben Dunlap in the head on the evening of Feb. 28, 2018, at Armstrong's home in the 1500 block of Brush Street in Bridgeport. Dunlap was taken to Medical City Denton where he died after being taken off life support the following day.

Armstrong was indicted on the murder charge last May.