

Hayward man enters plea in death of his brother

FROM STAFF REPORTS

HAYWARD — A man who killed his brother last May pleaded guilty to involuntary manslaughter Thursday.

Raymond Thomas Anderson, 49, had been charged with murder after he shot his brother in the head May 25 with a 9mm semi-automatic pistol at a house the two men shared at 1268 C St.

The bullet, according to court records, lodged in the right lobe of 47-year-old Robin Bruce Anderson's brain, causing him to lapse into a coma at Eden Medical Center in Castro Valley. He died there June 21.

The charge was reduced to involuntary manslaughter — meaning the shooting was accidental but there was negligence involved — after it was determined that Anderson didn't mean to kill his brother, said Assistant Public Defender Kimberly Kupferer.

“It happened while he was cleaning or loading his gun,” Kupferer said.

A neighbor who initially had told police he had heard the two brothers arguing shortly before the shooting changed his story, Kupferer said.

“It turned out the argument hadn't occurred on the day of the shooting, she said.

“He (Raymond Anderson) adored his brother,” Kupferer said. “This is a tragic situation. Now he doesn't have his brother and he is in jail.”

According to police reports filed with the court, Raymond Anderson dialed 911 and asked for an ambulance at 4:21 p.m. on the date of the shooting.

When police dispatchers asked him what had happened, he reportedly said, “I accidentally shot my brother in the head.”

Anderson entered his plea before San Leandro-Hayward Municipal Court Judge John A. Burke. He will be sentenced in Alameda County Superior Court in Oakland on Nov. 28, and he could get anything from probation to four years in prison.

He is being held without bail.