

Serial killer seeks new trial

by UPI

STOCKHOLM, Sweden -- A man convicted in Sweden of killing eight people should be retried because he was mentally ill when he confessed to the crimes, his lawyer said Monday.

Thomas Quick, who has recanted his confessions, wants the Svea Court of Appeal to order a new trial for the crimes for which he was convicted in 1997, lawyer Thomas Ollson said.

Quick was mentally ill and taking narcotics prescribed by a doctor when he confessed to killing eight people between 1978 and 1988, Ollson contends.

Prosecutors, who allege Quick initially confessed to killing more than 20 people, Monday rejected Ollson's contention that investigative material was withheld from the defense, the Swedish news agency TT reported.

Christer van der Kwast, the lead prosecutor against Quick, said he doubts a court will order a retrial. "This all seems like much ado about nothing," van der Kwast said.

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