## DC Criminal Defense Lawyers The Law Offices of David Benowitz

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**NOVEMBER 16, 2010** 

## DC Man Pleads Guilty to Wounding 3, Killing 1 in Shooting Rampage

A Washington DC man entered a guilty plea November 10th in DC Superior Court for a shooting rampage in which four people were shot, one sustaining fatal injuries in the incident. Thirty-three-year-old Seneca Benjamin, who was previously convicted on 16 separate counts in relation to the incident, entered the plea, at the advising of his Washington DC criminal attorney, during jury deliberations in the case.

Benjamin's previous convictions included mayhem while armed, aggravated assault while armed, and assault with intent to kill for the incident on April 26th of 2009 that left fourty-two-year-old Monique Nalle dead of gunshot wounds to the head and chest. Federal prosecutors said that Benjamin "periodically spent time" at the home where his uncle and cousin lived with Nalle. Evidence in the case indicated that Benjamin went to their home on the day of the shooting, asking Nalle about a submachine gun. Nalle denied knowing where the gun was located, and prosecutors say she then accused Benjamin of slashing her son's tires. After refuting Nalle's claim, police say, Benjamin drew a firearm and fatally shot the victim.

Benjamin's uncle Andre Benjamin, who was watching television when the shooting occurred, "dove at" his nephew in an attempt to save Nalle. The defendant then shot Benjamin in the face. After he shot the elder Benjamin and Nalle, Seneca Benjamin encountered Whitfield Arnett, another person living in the house, downstairs in a chair. Benjamin then shot Arnett in the neck, chest and fingers, according to evidence presented in court. A fourth resident at the Bryant Street home snuck back into the house upon hearing the gunshots, and Benjamin shot the man in the chest. All three men survived the wounds sustained in the incident.

Sentencing in the case is set for January 21st, 2011. Benjamin faces more than 100 years in prison for the charges on which he was convicted.

This article is presented by The Law Office of David Benowitz, serving Virginia, Maryland and Washington DC. For more information, please visit our <u>Maryland Criminal Attorney</u> and <u>Virginia Criminal Attorney</u> websites.

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