

EX-COP HELD IN DEATH OF WIFE, SON DETROITER CHARGED WITH DOUBLE MURDER

Detroit Free Press (MI) - Monday, October 18, 1999

Author: M.L. ELRICK FREE PRESS STAFF WRITER

The Detroit man accused of killing his wife and child -- the second time the former Detroit police officer has been charged with killing his spouse and their children -- remained jailed Sunday on two counts of murder.

Paul Harrington, 53, was ordered held without bond Saturday at an arraignment by Wayne County 36th District Magistrate Charles Anderson.

Anderson said **Harrington** did not have a lawyer. If he cannot afford one, the court will appoint one to represent him.

That would be the second time **Harrington** will rely on a public defender to represent him in a murder trial. In 1977, he faced three murder charges -- for shooting his wife and their two children with his service revolver in a slaying in December 1975.

Harrington, a Vietnam veteran who has a history of psychological problems linked to his war experiences, is accused of killing his wife, Wanda **Harrington**, and their 3-year-old son, Brian **Harrington**, on Friday in their home on West Grand Boulevard.

Friday's killings occurred after a 15-year-old boy, whom police say they believe is the couple's other son, left for school in a cab. **Harrington** then called police at about 9:30 a.m. to report the killings, police said.

Police would not say where the victims were shot but said their bodies were found in the living room of their duplex.

Neighbors told police **Harrington** recently lost his job and was depressed, but there was no indication he was being treated for mental illness, police said.

In 1975, **Harrington** killed his first wife, Becky, 28, and their daughters Pamela, 9, and Cassandra, 4, with gunshots to their heads. Their bodies were found in an apartment the victims were staying at because the Harringtons were separated.

Harrington, who had joined the police force in 1972, was fired after being charged with the triple homicide. He was found not guilty by reason of insanity and ordered committed for psychiatric treatment.

Two months later, he was released from the treatment program, police said records show.

{KEYWORDS} **PAUL HARRINGTON** ; HOMICIDE; MULTIPLE; SPOUSE; CHILD;
SHOOTING; ARRAIGNMENT

Edition: METRO FINAL

Section: NWS

Page: 1B

Record Number: 9910180089

Copyright (c) 1999 Detroit Free Press