

MOM RECALLS NIGHT GIRL DIED - AFTER HEARING, JUDGE ORDERS 2 MEN TO TRIAL

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Author: SUZETTE HACKNEY FREE PRESS STAFF WRITER; Staff writer Marlon A. Walker contributed

Pamela Martin woke up to loud noises outside and a house full of smoke.

She didn't know that her 8-year-old daughter, Brianna Caddell, lay in her bed, fatally wounded from three gunshots.

"At first I thought there was a fire in my house," Martin said Wednesday. "But after the smoke cleared up, I saw the bullet holes and I called the police."

Martin struggled tearfully as she recalled the events of April 10 at a preliminary examination in 36th District Court on Wednesday. She succumbed to the grief at one point, leaving the witness stand to compose herself outside the courtroom.

She returned and finished her account.

"I called the police and I told them my house had been shot up. They told me to check the house to see if anyone had been hit. I went straight to Brianna's room.

"I heard her coughing, and then she didn't cough no more. I went to look at her and I saw the bullet wound in her arm. She was lifeless."

Judge Izetta Bright ordered two Detroit men, **Antoine Foote**, 26, and **Karis Hampton**, 23 to stand trial in Wayne County Circuit Court on charges in Brianna's death.

Foote, who admitted to police he was the triggerman, is charged with first-degree murder, four counts of assault with intent to murder, being a felon in possession of a firearm and felony firearm, in which a gun is used to commit a felony.

Hampton, who told police he accompanied **Foote**, is charged with first-degree murder, four counts of assault with intent to murder, conspiracy to commit murder and felony firearm. If convicted, both men would face up to life in prison with no chance of parole.

Brianna was killed in her first-floor bedroom in the 19000 block of Cardoni when her house was sprayed with about two dozen rounds from an AK47 assault rifle. Brianna's death was one of four child homicides in a bloody two-month stretch in Detroit. Brianna is one of 12 children younger than 16 who have been slain in Detroit this year. Nine were killed by gunfire.

Police didn't get a break in the investigation until nearly two months after the shooting. **Foote** told police he shot at Brianna's house because he thought his intended target, Carl Donaldson,

was staying there. The dispute between **Foote** and Donaldson began Oct. 19 when Donaldson, 24, allegedly killed **Foote**'s brother, Colden **Foote**, in a shootout over drug turf. Donaldson was not charged because witnesses said he acted in self-defense.

At Wednesday's preliminary exam, Detroit Police homicide Sgt. Joann Kinney read the statement **Foote** gave the day he was arrested. **Foote** told police he was riding with friends looking for Donaldson, drinking beer and smoking blunts, or hollowed cigars filled with marijuana.

Foote told police a friend encouraged him to avenge his brother's death. The man told **Foote** that Donaldson was at the house on Cardoni -- Brianna's house. **Foote** said he and Hampton went to the home.

"I started shooting first," said Kinney, reading **Foote**'s statement. "I ran up the street, shooting the house up and down."

In a message to Brianna's family, **Foote** said: "I would like to apologize to the family of the little girl. Tell them it was a mistake."

Homicide Sgt. Ernest Wilson read Hampton's statement. For his part, Hampton said he accompanied **Foote**, but "I wanted no parts of it. I said the gun jammed."

Meanwhile, Douglas Kendrick, 24, will also face a trial in the shooting death of a child. Kendrick, accused of shooting through a wall on June 3 and fatally striking 10-year-old DeAntoine Trammell, is charged with second-degree murder and felony firearm.

Contact SUZETTE HACKNEY at 313-222-6672 or hackney@freepress.com. Staff writer Marlon A. Walker contributed to this report.

Caption: Photo
Brianna Caddell, 8, is one of 12 children slain in Detroit.
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