

DC Criminal Defense Lawyers

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DC Superior Court Finds Former DC Police Officer Guilty of Weapons Charges

A Washington DC criminal defense attorney knows that no one is immune to criminal charges. Political leaders, public officials, and law enforcement officers have all found themselves facing prosecution. Recently, a former DC police officer was convicted of charges stemming from a shooting in 2008.

The DC Superior Court found former police detective Sheldon Hargrove guilty of weapons charges in an incident in which his longtime friend shot an employee after arguing over wages. Hargrove's DC criminal defense lawyer challenged the charges that stemmed from his client supplying the weapon used in the shooting.

According to the prosecutors, Ronald Johnson, a general contractor, called his friend Hargrove for help in an argument with a worker. When Hargrove arrived, he handed Johnson a loaded semi-automatic weapon. Johnson shot the victim, who was sitting in a truck, twice in the chest. When the victim exited the vehicle and ran, Johnson continued to fire the pistol until it was emptied. An off-duty police officer witnessed the shooting and helped apprehend Johnson.

Convicted of assault and weapons charges, Johnson faces up to 15 years in prison. Hargrove, who supplied the weapon, faces up to 5 years as a result of DC Superior Court's guilty verdict. His sentencing will be held July 23.

Not even law enforcement officials and ex-cops are immune to weapons charges such as carrying a pistol without a license, assault with a weapon, and unlawful sale of a firearm. A DC criminal defense attorney knows that no one--regardless of political, professional, or societal contributions--is above the law.