CRIMINAL DEFENSE ATTORNEYS

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Areas of Defense

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Maryland Criminal Definitions

Maryland Murder/Manslaughter

Maryland Driving While Suspended **JANUARY 13, 2011**

Maryland Drug Lawyer: Massive Quantity of Heroin, Cocaine Found on Royal Caribbean Cruise Ship Docked in Baltimore

Just weeks after three crew members were found with \$65,000 worth of drugs onshore, \$94,000 worth of cocaine and heroin were located by drug-sniffing dogs on the Enchantment of the Seas, a Royal Caribbean cruise liner docked in Baltimore. A search on January 8th by US Customs and Border Protection located about a pound of cocaine and a pound and a half of heroin aboard the Enchantment.

According to the <u>Maryland criminal lawyer</u> representing one of the crew members, The Enchantment had just returned to port, after a twelve-day cruise with stops in the Dominican Republic, Haiti, Puerto Rico, St. Maarten, St. Thomas, and Tortola.

In the original bust on December 18th, crew member Gavin Excell was found to be concealing quantaties of heroin and cocaine on his person after the boat docked. Excell implicated fellow crew members John Swart Garth and Kishurn Neptune, both twenty-seven years-old, and said the three had purchased the contraband while the ship was in port in the Dominican Republic.

In a statement, the cruise company says that they intend to comply with law enforcement efforts to investigate drug smuggling aboard their ships:

"[Royal Caribbean] continues to cooperate fully with authorities during their investigation of crew members onboard Enchantment of the Seas suspected of smuggling drugs. We continue to provide any assistance necessary to prosecute these individuals to the fullest extent of the law... Royal Caribbean International maintains a strict zero tolerance policy regarding illegal drugs on its ships. We take various steps to prevent the transport of illegal narcotics, including working closely with U.S. Customs and Border Protection."

The contraband was located inside an employee locker, and law enforcement agents did not say whether they believed the two drug busts were linked. No further arrests have been made following the second discovery. All three men were indicted on charges of conspiring to import drugs.

This post is published by Price Benowitz LLP. Our attorneys represent clients in Washington DC, Maryland, and Virginia. For more information about the firm and its lawyers, please visit the <u>Virginia Criminal Attorney</u> and <u>Washington DC Criminal Attorney</u> websites.