

DETROIT MAN GETS LIFE FOR KILLING HIS 3 KIDS - HE TRIES TO CHANGE PLEA AT SENTENCING

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Author: BEN SCHMITT FREE PRESS STAFF WRITER

A Detroit father, who pleaded guilty last month to fatally shooting three of his children, tried to change his plea Monday before being sentenced.

It didn't work. Wayne County Judge Deborah Thomas ordered him to prison for life.

Anthony Bailey, 38, said he did not understand the consequences of his July 20 no-contest plea to three counts of second-degree murder and guilty to one count of assault with intent to murder and one count of using a firearm in the commission of a felony.

Thomas refused the last-minute request, and told **Bailey** to take the issue up on an appeal.

On Aug 19 last year, **Bailey** walked into the basement of his northwest Detroit home, where his children were sleeping. He used a shotgun to shoot the children at close range, killing **Sharnice Bailey**, 11, **Ayana Bailey**, 3, and **Lamar Bailey**, 1. **Antonia Bailey**, 9, survived the attack.

Bailey set a small fire and fled. Police found him the following day on an I-96 overpass.

Antonia Bailey later told police, "My daddy did it," from her hospital bed.

Police said **Bailey** confessed, telling investigators he was upset over the children's mother leaving him and financial problems.

"This is probably the worst case I've ever seen, just because of the sheer horror involved," said Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor Robert Moran. "I'm just glad it's over. The family is spared the additional burden of a trial."

For the second-degree murder charges, **Bailey** was sentenced to 40-60 years in prison; he received life for the assault-with-intent-to-murder count. He received a mandatory two years for the felony firearms charge. Moran said **Bailey** is eligible for parole in about 42 years, when he will be 80.

If he proceeded to trial and had been convicted of first-degree murder, he would have been sentenced to mandatory life in prison with no chance of parole.

Contact BEN SCHMITT at 313-223-4296 or schmitt@freepress.com

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Caption: Photo

Anthony Bailey wanted to take back his guilty plea on Monday.

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