

No-knock Warrants

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NO-KNOCK WARRANT ATTORNEYS | ROMANUCCI & BLANDIN

No-knock warrants have become increasingly controversial for various reasons over the last several years. Issued by a judge, this type of search warrant allows law enforcement to enter a home or building without immediate prior notification of the residents and is issued under the belief that destruction of evidence may occur prior to police officers or a SWAT team entering the property, or due to concerns that an imminent threat to law enforcement may exist on the property.

No-knock warrants and high-risk situations

While these are high-risk situations for members of law enforcement agencies, we have unfortunately seen examples of individual' civil rights and Fourth Amendment rights being grossly violated, often times when the individual is posing no imminent threat to police officers. Data from an ACLU study shows that 42 percent of the households raided with search warrants had Black occupants, but only 12 percent of the United States population is Black. The same report indicated that 36 percent of the raids resulted in absolutely nothing being found. Clearly there is a problem that crying out for reform.

No-knock raids that have turned tragic have made headlines across the country, from the police shooting death of Breonna Taylor in Louisville, Kentucky to incidents that have ranged from insulting to injurious in Chicago, New York and elsewhere.

Advocacy and civil rights

Our legal team is proud to join Attorney Ben Crump in co-representing the family of 22- year-old Amir Locke, who was killed during the service of a no-knock warrant in Minneapolis in February of 2022. Locke, who had no criminal record and was not named in the warrant, was asleep on the couch when he was awoken by the no-knock raid and ultimately was shot and killed by police.

The family of Amir Locke is working closely with the families of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor and others to encourage federal and state lawmakers to ban or significantly restrict the use of no-knock search warrants by law enforcement officers. In April of 2021, Kentucky signed Breonna's Law, which limits the use of no-knock raids. In March of 2022, a federal bill called the Amir Locke End Deadly No-knock Raids was introduced to the U.S. House of Representatives, while similar legislation has been proposed in Minnesota.

The Romanucci & Blandin team, along with our clients, advocates strongly for reform in the use of no-knock warrants by law enforcement, whether it be a moratorium on their use or significant restrictions on when they can be used. Every no-knock entry is a high-risk situation and we see too often when they result in injury or death along with property damage, and further erode trust in the police by the community. The reduction of no-knock warrants and the gathering of dependable data and details about them are important topics of conversation with law enforcement leaders, community advocates, as well as each state's attorney general and the Supreme Court.

Your no-knock warrant claim

Our team of civil rights lawyers at Romanucci & Blandin knows first hand how one search warrant is invasive and can cause irreparable harm to an individual or family. The number of no-knock warrants conducted throughout the country has increased dramatically over the years, bringing into question the exigent circumstances that they are being issued and whether or not law enforcement is being trained properly to handle the split-second decisions that often accompany each police raid.

The bottom line is that public safety and the sanctity of human life should always remain at the forefront of actions taken by police officers when they execute a no-knock warrant. Romanucci & Blandin's police misconduct and civil rights team has experience and success in handling cases where safety has not been prioritized and works to bring justice to those involved.

Free Consultation on your case by Chicago-based no-knock warrant lawyers

The attorneys at Romanucci & Blandin focusing on no-knock warrant litigation have proven success in these types of cases. **Please contact our office at info@rblaw.net, 312-458-1000 or [click here for a free evaluation of your case](#).** There is never a fee until you are compensated for your injuries at the end of the case.

Disclaimer: The content found on this page is not legal assistance and contacting the civil rights and police misconduct lawyers at Romanucci & Blandin's law office for a free consultation regarding personal injury cases and no-knock warrant claims does not constitute an attorney-client relationship.

In the News

Racial justice advocates offer mixed reviews of policing agreement
The Star Tribune, March 31, 2023

Bill banning no-knock warrants passes in House Public Safety Committee
KSTP, March 16, 2023

Slain Minnesotan's parents share experience, decry no-knock warrants at UA event
Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, March 3, 2023

Amir Locke's father, Andre Locke Sr., supports legislation to end deadly no-knock warrants
WCCO News Talk 830, February 9, 2023

'Will Not be Swept Under the Rug': One Year Later, Amir Locke's Parents Sues Minneapolis, Cops After No-Knock Raids Ends In His Death
Atlanta Black Star, February 5, 2023

Attorneys, family members announce lawsuit against City of Minneapolis for death of Amir Locke
KSTP, February 3, 2023

Civil lawsuit filed year after police-related death of Minneapolis man, Amir Locke
ABC News, February 3, 2023

George Floyd family's attorney joins case for another Minneapolis police killing
Crain's Chicago Business, February 3, 2023

'He was 22': A year later, Amir Locke's parents reflect on son's death at the hands of Minneapolis police
KSTP, February 1, 2023

Why calls for reform have not reduced the number of people killed by police
PBS NewsHour, January 12, 2023

Examining Civil Rights Litigation Reform, Part 2: State and Local Government Employer Liability
House Committee on the Judiciary, June 9, 2022

Biden signs policing order on George Floyd anniversary
KTSP-5, May 26, 2022

Full Report: Minneapolis Department of Human Rights investigation into the City of Minneapolis and Minneapolis Police Department
Minneapolis Department of Human Rights, April 27, 2022

Minneapolis Police Department engaged in racial discrimination, state says
ABC News, April 27, 2022

Minneapolis police 'engage in a pattern or practice of race discrimination,' Minnesota human rights department says
CNN, April 27, 2022

Vile examples of overlooked police brutality and racism unearthed in Minnesota human rights probe
Daily Kos, April 27, 2022

Amir Locke's family join growing call to end "no knock" warrants
ABC Nightline, April 14, 2022

Amir Locke, a young man finding his way
Minneapolis Star Tribune, April 11, 2022

Fight not over to get real police reform
The Chicago Crusader, April 11, 2022

Minneapolis officer who fatally shot Amir Locke won't be charged
Star Tribune, April 6, 2022

Police won't be charged in death of Amir Locke, Black man shot in 'no knock' raid
NBC News, April 6, 2022

Amir Locke's Perspective Ignored in Call Not to File Charges Against Cop
Newsweek, April 6, 2022

Minneapolis revises policy on warrants after Locke killing
AP News, March 14, 2022

Rep. Omar introduces bill to restrict no-knock warrants
KARE 11, March 1, 2022

MN House introduces no-knock warrant restrictions; how did we get here?
The Minnesota Daily, February 28, 2022

Attorney Antonio Romanucci Reacts to Kim Potter Sentencing on Don Lemon Tonight
CNN, February 18, 2022

SWAT officer in Locke shooting engaged in illegal search during previous raids
KTSP 5, February 16, 2022

Minneapolis city council to review no-knock warrants after Amir Locke shooting
1430 WCMY, February 8, 2022

No-knock warrants in Minnesota under scrutiny after fatal police shooting
ABC News, February 8, 2022

No-Knock Warrants Policies and Procedures Report
Minneapolis Policy & Government Oversight Committee, February 7, 2022

Amir Locke was respectful and curious, parents say: 'My heart ripped out of my body' to see shooting
Star Tribune, February 4, 2022

Attorneys, parents of Amir Locke call for justice following release of bodycam video in his death
KTSP 5, February 4, 2022

Amir Locke's Family Attorneys Say He Was 'Doomed to Die' in No-Knock Raid
Newsweek, February 4, 2022

Press Releases

Statement by Civil Rights Attorneys Ben Crump, Antonio Romanucci and Jeff Storms on the March 31, 2023 agreement on police reform in Minneapolis
March 31, 2023

No-knock Warrant Ban Passes House Public Safety Committee
March 16, 2023

Rep. Ilhan Omar to Host Andre Locke Sr., Father of Amir Locke, as State of the Union Guest, Reintroduce the Amir Locke End Deadly No Knock Warrants Act
February 6, 2023

Attorneys Ben Crump, Antonio Romanucci, and Jeff Storms File Civil Lawsuit for Police Shooting Death of Amir Locke
February 3, 2023

Senior Attorney Sarah M. Raisch joins Romanucci & Blandin's highly regarded Civil Rights team
December 9, 2022

National Civil Rights Attorney Ben Crump, George Floyd Family, and Legal Team Hail Biden Executive Order on Police Reform, Urge President to Keep Pressure On
May 25, 2022

George Floyd and Amir Locke Legal Team Releases Statement on Finding of Race Discrimination Pattern and Practice by the City of Minneapolis and Police Department
April 27, 2022

Legal Team Representing the Family of Amir Locke Releases Statement on No Criminal Charges Being Filed Against Officer in His Death
April 6, 2022

Legal Team for Family of Amir Locke Responds to the Proposed Ban of No-Knock Warrants by the City of Minneapolis
March 14, 2022

Legal Team for Family of Amir Locke Releases Statement on "Amir Locke End Deadly No-Knock Warrants Act"
March 1, 2022

Legal Team for Family of Amir Locke Provides Update on Investigation Into Police Killing of Amir Locke
February 16, 2022

Legal Team for Family of Amir Locke Responds to Arrest of Amir's Cousin
February 8, 2022

Legal Team for Family of Amir Locke Releases Statement Following Revelation That Minneapolis PD Insisted on No-Knock Raid
February 4, 2022

Articles

Comprehensive Police Reform: Essential *Yet Still* Elusive
Authored by Benjamin Crump and Antonio M. Romanucci, April 4, 2022