

# Teens plead innocent in fatal shooting

By Elaine Griffin  
Register Staff

**NEW HAVEN** — Two teens charged with the July murder of a 19-year-old rival pleaded innocent to the Newhallville shooting Thursday in Superior Court.

Andre Massenburg, 18, of New Haven and Kaiwan Brevard, 19, of Hamden entered their pleas before Judge Roland D. Fasano. Both teens are charged with the July 12 shooting of Robert Miller "Baby O" Jones, who died from a gunshot wound to the head.

Massenburg and Brevard, also known as James Jones, waived probable cause hearings that would have outlined whether the state had enough evidence to pursue the

case. Massenburg has admitted shooting Jones, of Hazel Street, in self-defense, according to court records.

Police have not commented on a motive for the shooting but confirmed the teens were involved in a dispute. Witnesses told police the teens were allegedly involved in drug dealing, court records said.

Massenburg claims he fired at least one shot from his .380-caliber handgun at Jones from the window of a car.

Massenburg said he and Brevard left a party on Sherman Avenue and were traveling on Munson Street when they saw a man, who was believed as Jones, exit his car. The arrest warrant states

The man began shooting. Massenburg said both he and Brevard fired back at the man. Massenburg was struck in the right hand.

Massenburg told investigators he didn't know whether the man had been hit by gunfire.

A witness in the car reported hearing Brevard state, "I think I hit him," to which Massenburg replied: "I shot him, too," court records said.

Brevard drove Massenburg to his home on Carmel Street where they called for medical assistance for Massenburg's minor hand wound.

Before paramedics took Jones to the hospital, police found a .45-caliber handgun in his pocket. His finger reportedly still was on the

trigger.

The gun apparently had jammed during firing. The magazine contained six live rounds, police said.

Police crime lab technicians recovered four spent .380-caliber casings on the ground at the shooting scene that allegedly came from Massenburg's firearm.

Four spent casings from a 9 mm handgun reportedly used by Brevard were recovered from the vehicle the teens were in at the time of the shooting, police said.

Both teens were being held late Thursday at the New Haven Correctional Center on Whalley Avenue in lieu of \$250,000 bail. They're scheduled to appear in court Oct. 30.