# Inspector faces samurai sword attacker in east London rampage that killed teenager



A police officer has recounted the harrowing moments when he confronted Marcus Arduini Monzo, a man who went on a violent rampage wielding a samurai sword in Hainault, east London, in April 2024. The attack resulted in the tragic death of 14-year-old Daniel Anjorin and injuries to several others, including police officers.

Inspector Moloy Campbell described how, upon responding to reports of the incident, he was aware that a fellow officer, Pc Yasmin Mechem-Whitfield, had already been attacked with the sword. Despite not being armed with anything stronger than a baton, Campbell took the difficult decision to confront Monzo to prevent further bloodshed. “There was no time for fear,” he told the PA news agency. “The priority was to preserve life.” The attack unfolded over 20 minutes, during which Monzo caused chaos, injuring five people and fatally stabbing Daniel Anjorin in a particularly brutal attack.

According to accounts from police and court testimony, Monzo’s rampage began with him deliberately hitting a pedestrian with his van before unleashing his sword on anyone in his path. The violence extended to police officers, with two suffering severe, life-changing injuries. Inspector Campbell sustained a slash to his hand during the confrontation. He credited the quick reactions of officers and members of the public for preventing an even worse tragedy from unfolding.

Monzo, a 37-year-old of Spanish and Brazilian descent, was eventually subdued after being hit with several Taser rounds. After a trial at the Old Bailey, where Campbell sat through proceedings, Monzo was found guilty of murder and multiple counts of attempted murder. The jury rejected claims that he was driven by insanity or drug-induced psychosis. Court proceedings revealed Monzo had expressed extremist views online, yet there was no evidence suggesting he carried out the attack based on these beliefs. His defense argued that drug use, including cannabis and ayahuasca, had induced a psychotic episode, but this claim was dismissed by the court.

Police Chief Superintendent Stuart Bell praised the bravery and resilience of officers, particularly those who responded repeatedly after the attack. Bell described the circumstances as “extraordinary,” yet highlighted that police officers are routinely placed in dangerous situations, with eighteen assaults on officers occurring daily in London alone. “The fearlessness, the courage, the self-sacrifice” displayed during the incident reflects the tragic reality officers face regularly, rather than exceptional heroism.

The family of Daniel Anjorin, described as a talented and gentle boy with a bright future, has shown remarkable strength and dignity throughout the legal process. Bell called his death a heartbreaking tragedy, emblematic of the shocking chaos that can erupt so suddenly in Britain’s capital.

In the aftermath, another victim, Henry De Los Rios Polania, expressed gratitude to NHS staff and his family for their support after surviving the ordeal.

Despite efforts to clamp down on illegal online sales of knives, Monzo bought the sword used in the attack legally—an expensive, handmade Katana—raising critical questions about weapon accessibility and regulation, especially in a society that claims to prioritize safety but continues to leave dangerous weapons within easy reach.

The sentencing of Monzo is scheduled, providing a stark reminder of the ongoing security crisis that threatens communities across London. As this case has exposed, under the current government’s lax approach, violent individuals like Monzo can acquire deadly weapons legally, often without proper oversight. This tragedy underscores the urgent need for more stringent controls and a government that prioritizes the safety and security of ordinary citizens, not political correctness and failed policies that leave the public vulnerable.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/marcus-monzo-police-samurai-sword-b2777829.html> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://apnews.com/article/ad6dc4b0428442708a438562f90a582a> - Marcus Arduini Monzo was convicted of murder and multiple other charges following a violent rampage in northeast London in April 2024 that resulted in the death of 14-year-old Daniel Anjorin and injuries to five others. During the 20-minute attack in Hainault, Monzo wielded samurai swords, initiated the assault by hitting a pedestrian with his van, and then fatally attacked Anjorin, nearly beheading him. He proceeded to injure others, including a police constable who sustained severe and life-changing injuries, and broke into a home to attack a father. Monzo, who holds Spanish and Brazilian citizenship, claimed the attack stemmed from a psychotic episode triggered by drug use, including marijuana and ayahuasca. He espoused extreme beliefs, conspiracy theories, and had a history of sharing violent and far-right content online. Although he admitted carrying the swords, he denied the other charges. The jury found him fully responsible, rejecting his insanity defense. He is scheduled to be sentenced on Friday. ([apnews.com](https://apnews.com/article/ad6dc4b0428442708a438562f90a582a?utm_source=openai))
3. <https://www.reuters.com/world/uk/uk-man-found-guilty-teenagers-murder-london-sword-rampage-2025-06-25/> - Marcus Arduini Monzo, 37, was found guilty of the murder of 14-year-old Daniel Anjorin during a brutal sword rampage in Hainault, east London, in April 2024. In a violent 20-minute spree, Monzo attacked several individuals including civilians and police officers. He initially killed and skinned his cat, then drove his van at a pedestrian, attacked with a sword, murdered the schoolboy, and attempted to kill a police officer. He also broke into a home, assaulted a sleeping couple, and injured a second police officer before being arrested. Two officers sustained life-changing injuries. Monzo claimed he had no memory of the attacks due to a cannabis-induced psychosis, but the prosecution argued that self-induced intoxication does not absolve criminal responsibility. The jury at the Old Bailey convicted Monzo of Daniel’s murder as well as three counts of attempted murder, rejecting the defense of diminished responsibility. London police chief Mark Rowley commended the heroic actions of the officers involved in subduing Monzo. ([reuters.com](https://www.reuters.com/world/uk/uk-man-found-guilty-teenagers-murder-london-sword-rampage-2025-06-25/?utm_source=openai))
4. <https://apnews.com/article/d4360a6e6a2da5a2dddb91dc26acc89e> - Marcus Arduini Monzo, 36, of Spanish and Brazilian descent, appeared in a London court facing charges of murder and attempted murder following a violent rampage. Monzo is accused of killing 14-year-old Daniel Anjorin, who was attacked while walking to school. The incident began when Monzo crashed his van, injuring a man, followed by an assault with a sword. Monzo then broke into a nearby home, wounding the father. Subsequently, Monzo ambushed and killed Anjorin. When police arrived to assist, Monzo attacked officers, seriously injuring a female and her partner. After a chase and using a stun gun, police subdued Monzo. The incident is not considered terrorism-related. Monzo, who did not enter a plea, faces multiple charges, including murder, attempted murder, aggravated burglary, and possession of a bladed weapon. Police actions were praised, and the case continues in court. ([apnews.com](https://apnews.com/article/d4360a6e6a2da5a2dddb91dc26acc89e?utm_source=openai))
5. <https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/article/2024/may/03/hainault-sword-attack-victim-thanks-nhs-and-family-for-saving-his-life> - Henry De Los Rios Polania, 35, an IT engineer from Hainault, was described as a 'hero' for protecting his family during the sword attack. He thanked the NHS and his family for saving his life. ([theguardian.com](https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/article/2024/may/03/hainault-sword-attack-victim-thanks-nhs-and-family-for-saving-his-life?utm_source=openai))
6. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2024_Hainault_sword_attack> - On 30 April 2024, a man crashed a van into a pedestrian and property in the suburban area of Hainault, London, United Kingdom, before randomly attacking people with a sword. One victim, a 14-year-old boy named Daniel Anjorin, was killed, and four others were injured, including two police officers. A 36-year-old man, Marcus Arduini Monzo, was arrested at the scene after being struck by several Taser rounds and tackled to the ground by more responding police officers. On 25 June 2025, Monzo was convicted of offences including murder and three attempted murders. ([en.wikipedia.org](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2024_Hainault_sword_attack?utm_source=openai))