

# Suge Knight Sues Chris Brown Over Club Shooting

By Anthony McCartney  
AP Entertainment Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) - Former rap music mogul Marion "Suge" Knight sued Chris Brown and the owners of a popular nightclub on Monday after he was shot seven times at a 2014 party hosted by the R&B singer.

The lawsuit filed in Los Angeles Superior Court accuses Brown and nightclub 1 Oak of failing to have adequate security and allowing at least one armed person into the venue during the party.

Knight survived gunshot wounds to the abdomen, chest and left forearm. The Death Row Records co-founder has cited complications from those injuries, including a blood clot, in court appearances on an unrelated murder charge.

His attorneys say Knight's fear months after the shooting led him to flee when he was attacked in his car, running down two men and killing one. Knight, who is a two-time convicted felon, is in jail awaiting trial.

The lawsuit does not state how much money Knight is seeking but asks for a judgment ordering the defendants to pay past and future medical expenses for his injuries.

Emails sent to Brown's attorney, Mark Geragos, and the owners of 1 Oak were not immediately returned Monday.

The lawsuit contends 1 Oak should have taken special security precautions because events hosted by Brown have a history of violence. It accuses Brown of gang ties and a "well-documented track record of



Suge Knight

hosting events and/or parties in which violence frequently erupted."

Brown has completed probation in a 2009 felony assault case in which he

in Miami Beach. He sued the rapper, blaming him for lax security, but a judge ruled in West's favor after concluding there was no evidence a shooting was foreseeable.

Knight has a string of legal problems dating back more than 20 years and was charged in two separate cases soon after the 2014 shooting.

The 51-year-old and comedian Katt Williams were accused of stealing a celebrity photographer's camera in Beverly Hills within days of the shooting. Both men have pleaded not guilty to robbery charges.

Months later, Knight was charged with running over two men with his pickup truck outside a Compton burger stand, killing one and seriously injuring the other. Knight's attorneys have said he was fleeing armed attackers in the January 2015 collision.

They say Knight was acting in self-defense when he struck Cle "Bone" Sloan, who was punching Knight through the window of his pickup truck, and also hit Terry Carter, who died from his injuries.

Attorneys J. Tooson and Jeremy Lessem linked Knight's injuries from the nightclub shooting to the

Compton incident, saying he was afraid for his life and still recovering.

"Mr. Knight was still extremely frail from his gunshot injuries less than five months earlier," Tooson wrote in a statement. "When the facts are finally revealed in this case, we're certain it will be apparent that our client was simply trying to flee for his life."

Knight was a key player in the gangster rap scene that flourished in the 1990s and has been kept under tight security since he turned himself in to authorities after the deadly collision.

His Death Row Records label once listed Dr. Dre, Tupac Shakur and Snoop Dogg among its artists. Knight lost control of the company after it was forced into bankruptcy.

Knight pleaded no contest in 1995 and was sentenced to five years' probation for assaulting two rappers in 1992. He was sentenced to prison in 1997 for violating his probation by taking part in a fight at a Las Vegas hotel hours before Shakur was fatally wounded in a drive-by attack as he rode in Knight's car.

## Judge Says No Hurry In Determining Prince Claims

By Kyle Potter  
Associated Press

CHASKA, Minn. (AP) - A Minnesota judge overseeing the legal proceedings surrounding Prince's estate said Monday there will be no quick decisions on who should be allowed to inherit from the late megastar.

Prince died in late April of an accidental drug overdose, with no known will or children. A sister and

five half-siblings are in line to inherit, with several others claiming a tie to the performer.

While attorneys for Tyka Nelson, Prince's sister, and others pushed for a quick resolution to establish control of an estate estimated at \$300 million or more, the court first needs to set ground rules for which claimants can be considered.

Noting the complexity

of claims and parentage law, Carver County District Judge Kevin Eide said he may forward his eventual decision to an appellate court for immediate review, drawing out the process even longer.

"This case is perhaps unique in the state of Minnesota," he said. "I want to do it right because it's important to a lot of people."

The decision on Prince's heirs will determine not just who gets Prince's current wealth and Paisley Park recording studio but also who controls his music and the image he cultivated over four chart-topping decades. Industry experts have said his earnings potential after death is vast.

More than two dozen attorneys crowded into the small courtroom in the Minneapolis suburb of Chaska to jostle over the ground rules for who may ultimately be considered.

Attorneys for Tyka Nelson pushed the court to take a narrow view of heir eligibility. Nelson's claim and that of several half-siblings are firmly based on legal documents that establish Prince's parentage, including a divorce record for his parents.

They said claimants who have asserted that Prince's parents were someone other than John Nelson and Mattie Shaw should be rejected.

Brian Dillon, an attorney for Tyka Nelson, urged Eide to act quickly.

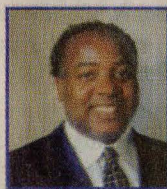
"There is some urgency in determining who are the rightful heirs," Dillon said. "We are now more than 2 1/2 months out from (Prince's) death."

Claimants who disputed Prince's parentage pushed for a broader view of eligibility. James Selmer represents Venita Jackson Leverette, who claims that Prince's real father was Alfred Jackson Sr. and that she is Prince's half-sister.

Selmer said his client's claim is strong and could be backed up by a DNA test if permitted by the court.

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