

**DIDDY'S 'HIT' PARADE - SUIT BLAMES HIM IN TWO MURDERS**

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A former business partner of Sean "P. Diddy" Combs implicated the mogul in the 1995 murder of rival Suge Knight's bodyguard and accused his conglomerate of ordering the hit on slain rapper Tupac Shakur, explosive new court papers allege.

Kirk Burrowes, the godfather of one of Combs' sons and an ex- president of his rap company Bad Boy Entertainment, makes the extraordinary claims as part of a \$25 million suit in Manhattan federal court.

In legal filings obtained by The Post, Burrowes claims the champagne-loving star set up an "enterprise" of thuggish associates "to gain power, recognition, fame and financial gain through acts and threats involving murder, mayhem and extortion via the enterprise."

"With the consent, approval and ratification of the enterprise, Suge Knight's chief bodyguard Big Jake was murdered in 1995," Burrowes says in a sworn legal document.

He claims the bodyguard, Jai Hassan, was killed soon after Combs' "advance man" at an Atlanta party got into an "East Coast-West Coast bashing contest."

A local deputy sheriff, who was later killed in a "mysterious car accident," identified Combs' "advance man" - a convicted felon named Anthony Jones - as the shooter, Burrowes claims.

Burrowes also says Bad Boy Entertainment was "suspected" to have hired in 1996 the shooter who killed Shakur - a top performer with Knight's Death Row Records label.

Burrowes did not detail who held the suspicions in his sworn 37- page statement.

Burrowes, who says he enjoyed a "very close, family-like relationship" with Combs before they fell out, launched legal action in June, claiming Combs cheated him out of \$25 million, threatened him with a baseball bat and later spiked his management deal with rap diva Mary J. Blige.

Combs lawyer Benjamin Brafman said yesterday Burrowes' claims are "entirely baseless" and "without merit."

"This is one of many entirely baseless lawsuits that Mr. Combs and other superstars like him must contend with on a regular basis," he said.

Burrowes lawyer John Bostany will argue in court today for Burrowes' new claims of violence to be admitted to the case.

"My client appears to be the victim of a corrupt group that 'thugs its way through it' and I am here to help him get justice," Bostany said yesterday.

Other accusations Burrowes levels at Combs include presiding over a vicious attack on April 15, 1999, against Steve Stoute, the manager of Bad Boy Entertainment competitor Nas, at his office at Universal Records.

"The organized group, led by and captained by Combs, used a champagne bottle to strike Steven Stoute repeatedly," Burrowes alleges.

Other members of the alleged "enterprise," Roy Reid and Dante Dixon, were directed by Combs to threaten, harass and stalk John Bentley, a songwriter and owner of Calidelphia Records, Burrowes claims.

"John Bentley was threatened with a pistol Jan. 31, 2002 . . . was shot near his home in Philadelphia in September 2002 and stalked by telephone and in person by thugs hired by Combs in Atlanta," the document says.

**[Illustration]**

A shocking suit claims Sean Combs (near left) was behind the 1995 killing of Jai "Big Jake" Hassan (far left, in memorial poster), a bodyguard for Suge Knight (middle). The allegations are brought by Kirk Burrowes (bottom), Combs' ex-biz partner. Dennis Van Tine/LFI; Philadelphia Daily News

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**Abstract** (Document Summary)

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A shocking suit claims Sean Combs (near left) was behind the 1995 killing of Jai "Big Jake" [Jai Hassan] (far left, in memorial poster), a bodyguard for Suge Knight (middle). The allegations are brought by Kirk Burrowes (bottom), Combs' ex-biz partner. Dennis Van Tine/LFI; Philadelphia Daily News

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