

Death Row Records 1994: Life and Legacy

Character Dossier

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Calvin “Snoop Dogg/Snoop Doggy Dogg” Broadus Jr.:

Calvin “Snoop Doggy Dogg” is a writer and songwriter who joined death row in 1992 after he got fame from being featured in Dr Dre’s music. In 1993 he was charged with murder after his bodyguard shot a gang member, but the charges were dropped. He’s known for smoking weed in front of the White House in protest and changing his name to “Snoop Lion” after announcing he was sick of rap, and converting to Rastafarianism.

Sedge Thomson:

Sedge Thomson is an American radio personality, impresario, writer and film producer. He is best known as the host and proprietor of the popular Saturday morning radio variety show *West Coast Live*. *West Coast Live* was named "Most Innovative Radio Show" by NY Radio Festival and therefore has become a pivotal element of west coast culture. Thomson has become known for his like-able and ever-curious personality, and his iconic signature red shoes. He controls what is aired on his station, which gives him considerable control on hip-hop culture as a whole. Consequently, his station is an incredibly strong pillar of American media and news.

David Kenner:

Mr. Kenner represents high profile clients on the west coast as an attorney. He works at Death Row Records, a 1991-founded American musical company, as an executive and head lawyer. He has represented rappers Suge Knight, Snoop Dogg, and Tupac Shakur, and notoriously represented Snoop Dogg during his high-profile 1996 murder charge, which centered on the shooting death of an L.A. gang member named Philip Woldemariam three years prior.

Willie L. Williams:

Between 1992 through 1997, Willie L. Williams served as the Los Angeles Police Department's (LAPD) chief of police. Williams took office in the wake of the 1992 Riots in Los Angeles and promised to bring about real reform inside the department. He attempted to close the divide between the police and black areas as the LAPD's first black chief. Williams, in his capacity as chief of police, has control over all aspects of the police force, including where officers are sent and which matters are of most significance to the LAPD.

Thomas "Tom" Bradley:

Thomas "Tom" Bradley was an American politician who spent an extraordinary five terms as mayor of Los Angeles. He was the first African American mayor of a city with a large white population (1973–93). Among Bradley's accomplishments were obtaining the 1984 Summer Olympics for Los Angeles and overseeing two decades of prosperity and municipal development. The biggest problem in Bradley's term occurred in 1992 with the acquittal of four white police officers who had been charged with assaulting a black motorist named Rodney King in an event that was captured on camera. Following the five straight days of riots during which more than 50 people were killed, Bradley was widely criticized for his failure to contain the crisis and did not seek a further term.

Kirk Kerkorian:

Kerkor "Kirk" Kerkorian is an Armenian-American businessman, investor, and philanthropist. His private holding firm, Tracinda Corporation, is situated in Beverly Hills, California, and he serves as its president and CEO. Along with architect Martin Stern Jr., Kerkorian was a key player in the development of Las Vegas and is known as the "father of the mega-resort." He built the world's largest hotel in Las Vegas three times, the International Hotel (opened in 1969), the MGM Grand Hotel (1973) and the MGM Grand (1993). As MGM Grand Las Vegas and MGM Grand Garden Arena owner he is the major player in the hospitality and tourism business.

Martin Stern Jr.:

The work of American architect Martin Stern Jr. is well renowned for its monumental constructions and designs. The idea for the architecturally integrated casino resort complex in Las Vegas is ascribed to him. He has several commercial connections to important casinos, nightclubs, and aesthetic recreational structures, making him the undisputed father of the Las Vegas Strip skyline. His creations of clubs and casinos are admired among the elite and are of constant high demand.

Nathaniel “Nate Dogg” Hale:

Nathaniel is a singer and rapper, who signed to Death Row in 1993. Like Snoop Dogg, he gained attention after being featured on two of Dr Dre’s singles. Nate was born August 19th, 1969, making him a leo. He has been described as an introvert and works best by himself. He has been nominated for four grammys and before his passing collaborated with many artists, from Tupac to Mariah Carey. In the early 90s, he was in a rap trio with Snoop Dogg and Warren G.

Warren “Warren G.”Griffin III:

Warren G is a rapper, dj, and actor. He was born November 10th, 1970, making him a scorpio. Warren Is Dr Dre's younger step brother, and because of this got an insider view of Death Row and the kind of contracts people would be bound to. Because of this, he tried to warn his close friend, Snoop Dogg who was looking to sign a contract. This resulted in a physical altercation with Death Row co-founder Marion “Suge” Knight Jr, ruining his chances of a contract. He still rose to fame in 1994 after releasing the hit single “Regulate”, with Nate Dogg.

Dr.Dre:

Dr Dre was born February 18th, 1965, making him an aquarius. He gained attention when his rap group NWA released their hit album “Straight Outta Compton”. He later went on to become a founder of Death Row records, alongside Suge Knight and Dick Griffey. He also helped create Beats Electronics, Aftermath Entertainment, and Aftermath Music. He had six children by five different women. Dr Dre is described as defiant and able to take charge.

Marion “Suge” Knight:

Marion “Suge” Knight is a former American record owner and co-founder and CEO of Death Row Records, and also a convicted felon. In the year 1995, Knight made a deal with Tupac Shakur paying his bail and signing him to Death Row records, where Tupac produced one of his greatest successes. After Tupac’s death, famous people like Dr.Dre, Snoop Dog left death row records leading to the rapid decline of Death Row records. On top of this, allegations and charges were piled on Knight for multiple charges including having violence in his dealings, stealing, and is even a prime suspect in the murder of the Notorious B.I.G. Knight is currently serving his sentence and will be eligible for parole in 2034.

Afeni Shakur:

Afeni Shakur was an American Political Activist and a member of the Black Panther party. She was the mother of Tupac Shakur and was also the executor of his estate. During her years in the black panther party, she did many acts of activism including raising bail money for the members of the party that were accused of conspiracy to bomb the police station, fought for the rights of her party by being “brilliant in court”, after spending two years in the Women’s House of Detention for being accused of attacking and bombing two police stations, she even participated in a workshop organized by the Gay liberation Front fighting against homophobia in the black panther party.

Assata Olugbala Shakur

Assata Olugbala Shakur (her birth name being Anne Deborah Byron) is an American Political Activist part of the Black Panther party and the Black Liberation Party. She is currently on FBI’s “most wanted terrorists” with a bounty of \$1,000,000 for copious amounts of crime committed. She was known as Tupac’s “step aunt”. She is charged with murder, attempted murder, armed robbery, bank robbery, and kidnapping in relation to the shootout and six other incidents. She also fought for the free breakfast

program for children in New York, free clinics, and community outreach before leaving the party.

Jada Pinkett Smith:

Jada Pinkett Smith is a popular and highly respected American actress and talk show host. Famous for her versatility as an actress starring in a wide range of movies including her debut on season 4 of “*A Different World*” and head roles in *Menace II Society*, *The Nutty Professor*, *Set It Off*, and *Scream 2*. She has also been known to have relations with the bloods, including a romantic relationship with Tupac Shakur in the 1990s. Additionally, up until about a year after she met Tupac, she was involved in gangs and drug dealing.

Ericka Huggins:

Ericka Huggins is a political activist, educator, and former Black Panther Party leader. In the late 1960s and early 1970s, she was actively involved in the Black Panther Party and was known for her work as a community organizer and educator. She was known for her work as a community organizer and educator. Huggins was arrested in 1969 on conspiracy to murder charges but was later released. After her release, she dedicated her life to education and activism, working as a teacher and mentor. Huggins is a respected advocate for human rights, racial equality and women’s rights, and continues to inspire people with her commitment to social justice.

Richard “Dick” Gilbert Griffey:

Richard “Dick” Gilbert Griffey was an American music executive and producer. Griffey’s impact on the music industry can be seen in the continued popularity and influence of the artists he worked with, as well as the continued success of SOLAR Records and Death Row Records, in which he founded. Through these records, he has associations with lots of West Coast rappers including Dr. Dre, Snoop Dog, Tha Dogg Pound, and 2Pac. He was a pioneer in the music industry, shaping the direction of popular music during this time. Even after his death in 2010, he will be remembered as an

important figure in the history of popular music, and his impact on the industry will be felt for generations to come.

Lumumba Shakur:

From 1966 to 1982, an African-American revolutionary socialist group called the Black Panther Party (BPP) operated in the US. Huey Newton and Bobby Seale created the BPP in Oakland, California, as a result of the Civil Rights Movement and the African-American community's resistance to police brutality. The party's original goals were to provide community-based self-defense and keep an eye on how the police behaved in African-American communities. In the late 1960s and early 1970s, Lumumba Shakur (and later Tupac Shakur) participated in both the Black Panther Party and the Black Liberation Army. Although there is little information available about his life and actions, he was supposedly Assata Shakur's close friend and involved in a number of high-profile incidents. Lumumba Shakur was also Afeni Shakur's (Tupac's mother) first husband.

Mutulu Shakur:

Political activist Mutulu Shakur formerly belonged to the Black Panther Party. He is also well-known for being the late rapper Tupac Shakur's stepfather. Mutulu Shakur was a member of the Black Liberation Army in the 1980s, a militant group that promoted the armed emancipation of African Americans. He was later detained, found guilty on several counts, including conspiring to rob a bank with a weapon and kidnapping a Brinks armored car courier, and given a 60-year sentence in federal prison. Despite demands for his release from some African Americans, Mutulu Shakur is still imprisoned today.

Pete Wilson:

Pete Wilson was an American politician who served as the 36th Governor of California from 1991 to 1999. He was a member of the Republican Party and is best known for his stance on immigration and social issues, as well as his efforts to revive California's economy during a period of fiscal crisis. Wilson was also a United States Senator from 1983 to 1991, representing the state of California in the upper chamber of Congress.

Ice Cube:

Ice Cube is an American rapper, actor, and filmmaker. He rose to prominence in the late 1980s and early 1990s as a member of the influential hip-hop group N.W.A., which was known for its politically charged and often controversial lyrics. After leaving N.W.A., Ice Cube embarked on a successful solo career and has released several critically acclaimed albums. Ice Cube was not associated with Death Row Records, but he did collaborate with some of its artists, most notably Dr. Dre, during the early stages of his career through what was considered the first generation of Death Row Records, Ruthless Records.