

## How Young Dolph's Suspected Killer Are all Getting killed.

<https://www.youtube.com/shorts/4yYj8kqS5k0?feature=share>

The streets of Memphis mourned greatly on November 17, 2021, when the King of Memphis and legend in the rap industry, Young Dolph was brutally assassinated.

<https://youtu.be/2uWHwK46bLs> {0:00-0:16}

Known for his famous hit single "100 Shots" [https://youtu.be/LN66A9bCF\\_U](https://youtu.be/LN66A9bCF_U) {1:41-1:56}, he sure did make waves in the rap industry and globally.

He was highly respected by big artists such as Gucci

Mane. <https://www.youtube.com/shorts/Ej8xpyMsysM?feature=share>

Adolph Robert "Young Dolph" Thornton Jr was an American rapper. Thornton was born on July 27, 1985, to Adolph Thornton Sr and an unnamed mother in Chicago, Illinois.

He also had two sisters and two brothers. He was a second cousin to rapper Jarad Anthony "Juice Wrld" Higgins.

Dolph's parents moved to Memphis, Tennessee when he was two years old. Growing up, Dolph experienced his parents getting addicted to crack cocaine which resulted in him being raised by his grandmother. He stated in an interview that his parents weren't

"shit" <https://youtu.be/pzQnGvxW0iU> {0:03-0:59}

Dolph attended Hamilton High School in Memphis, Tennessee where he graduated in 2003.

Despite being raised by his grandmother who by the way he called "the meanest motherfucker in the world", he still found his back on the

streets. <https://www.youtube.com/shorts/EzNGh7YUpi0?feature=share>

He often freestyled just to pass the time and never really had an interest in pushing the rap career but after he almost died in a car accident, his homies convinced him to "hop in the booth".

In 2008, Dolph released his debut mixtape, Paper Route Campaign. Two years later in 2010, he established his independent record label, Paper Route Empire.

In 2013 Dolph did a collab with Gucci Mane <https://youtu.be/XwNOHR7ZQyY> {1:42-1:53} and this got the attention of Yo Gotti, a popular rapper from Memphis.

In 2014, Yo Gotti reached out to Dolph to offer him a deal but Dolph turned down the offer because he had his big plans. This sparked some issues between the two.

After releasing mixtapes, he finally released his debut album, The King of Memphis, in 2016.

Since then he has been releasing hit songs and worked with some A-list artists.

Dolph has also been involved in high-profile feuds with fellow Memphis Rappers Mario Sentell Giden "Yo Gotti" Mims and Sammie Marquez "Blac Youngsta" Benson.

The feud between Yo Gotti and Young Dolph became public in the year 2016 and the feud left the fans confused, as a lot of speculations were made regarding it. Some thought the reason for the clash between Gotti and Dolph was because Dolph claimed to be the "King Memphis" which was disrespectful to Yo Gotti. After all, he was already called that.

In a live performance, Yo Gotti said on stage that "Another lil nigga told me that another lil nigga said he was the King of Memphis, I was like nigga what" <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g62oGYRUecE> {2:16-2:22} because of this statement Gotti made, people thought it was the reason behind their beef.

In an interview with Vlad, DJ Paul who is also a rapper, and record producer from Memphis stated that he didn't know the exact reason for the tension between Dolph and Gotti but he hoped it wasn't because of the "King of Memphis"

title. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=92qEqaZrW9I> {1:49-1:56}

The beef between the two intensified as Yo Gotti featuring Moneybagg Yo released a song titled “Can’t Do It” which he clearly dissed Young Dolph. “I watched the interview don’t like the energy” <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DPSsxEVDchY> {1:48-1:50}. It was alleged that he was referring to Young Dolph’s interview with Sway where he spoke about turning down his offer. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j9H8ydc36c> {9:41-9:59}

According to Dolph in an interview with Durtty Daily, he kept on ignoring the disses from Yo Gotti. Tired of the constant dissing from Yo Gotti, Dolph finally replied on February 11, 2016, when he tweeted “Bra went from bein my #1 fan and wanting to sign me to being my biggest hater (Laughing emoji)

#facts” [https://www.google.com/imgres?imgurl=https%3A%2F%2Fih4.googleusercontent.com%2F2dmzCZ-JGxQTQncxbkEKMZo7OiLkOQUlcJQKJ4MAJlJSOGGy6HlnMtFSdN2MyBBWaYuOUBOCEx5afGef-GnzTec\\_VgBIPC8MoU8cHZ7qvHV\\_E6CZlpBu-Qm2a-oBYptr0pP-GF6BTH4wV9th\\_KqzosKR4sTwjZxCTcowmU74\\_jE7AEslfoVDI7m4-96fuCWcjlDmSEqY&tbnid=CM966vgiKnShcM&vet=10CGIQMyiSAWoXChMI8PfM-J6ZhAMVAAAAAB0AAAAAEAM..i&imgrefurl=https%3A%2F%2Frapology.com%2F2023%2F12%2Fyoung-dolph-and-yo-gotti-beef-turns-deadly-in-the-streets%2F&docid=NYyYRr5rKZ56M&w=1130&h=408&q=young%20dolph%20tweet%20about%20yo%20gotti&ved=0CGIQMyiSAWoXChMI8PfM-J6ZhAMVAAAAAB0AAAAAEAM](https://www.google.com/imgres?imgurl=https%3A%2F%2Fih4.googleusercontent.com%2F2dmzCZ-JGxQTQncxbkEKMZo7OiLkOQUlcJQKJ4MAJlJSOGGy6HlnMtFSdN2MyBBWaYuOUBOCEx5afGef-GnzTec_VgBIPC8MoU8cHZ7qvHV_E6CZlpBu-Qm2a-oBYptr0pP-GF6BTH4wV9th_KqzosKR4sTwjZxCTcowmU74_jE7AEslfoVDI7m4-96fuCWcjlDmSEqY&tbnid=CM966vgiKnShcM&vet=10CGIQMyiSAWoXChMI8PfM-J6ZhAMVAAAAAB0AAAAAEAM..i&imgrefurl=https%3A%2F%2Frapology.com%2F2023%2F12%2Fyoung-dolph-and-yo-gotti-beef-turns-deadly-in-the-streets%2F&docid=NYyYRr5rKZ56M&w=1130&h=408&q=young%20dolph%20tweet%20about%20yo%20gotti&ved=0CGIQMyiSAWoXChMI8PfM-J6ZhAMVAAAAAB0AAAAAEAM)

After the tension between Yo Gotti and Dolph cooled down a bit, Young Dolph took time to focus on his music label and career. During that period, Dolph signed his cousin Key Glock to Paper Route Empire. Glock was also brought up in the streets but wasn’t close to his cousin Dolph while growing up. Glock started rapping in ninth grade and formed a rap crew with his friends. He then dropped a mixtape called “Whole Lotta Errthang” and this got him some fame but unfortunately one of Glock’s friends was killed and Glock got locked up for a different crime. While Glock was in jail his Aunt showed Young Dolph his music and Dolph loved it. When Key Glock got out of the shooting charge, Dolph offered him a deal with his record label and Glock accepted the offer. Signing Glock made Dolph and his record label skyrocket but at the same time, the beef between Yo Gotti and him kick started again.

In 2017, he then went ahead and released a track titled “Play with Yo bitch” The song talked about him being in Yo Gotti’s baby mama’s guts. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N8Js00gAZY0>

In the video, Dolph went as far as getting an actor to play Gotti. But he took the disrespect even further and made the track cover art a screenshot of missed calls from a contact on his phone nicknamed “Ho’ Gotti Baby Moma.”

This action from Dolph made things get really messy. This was when Blac Youngsta another rapper from Memphis stepped in to defend his boss Yo Gotti. Youngsta stated that Dolph dissed him on Trouble’s “Ready (Remix)” Feat. Young Thug, Young Dolph & Big Bank

Black <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iX34S53M4a0> and it infuriated Youngsta. He just couldn’t sit still without a reply. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S0Es4RfxQ9o> {0:59-1:13}.

He then hit back with his own diss <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S0Es4RfxQ9o> {2:01-2:11} and this escalated the situation. Youngsta even went as far as pulling up in Dolph’s neighborhood with his homies and they were ready to put Dolph in the ground. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bsPkSKjRM7I> {0:09-0:19}

Dolph disregarded Youngsta instead he directed his attention to Yo Gotti and clearly called him a “Bitch ass nigga” in a video he made and posted on

Instagram. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GqgpGiO\\_I98](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GqgpGiO_I98) {0:04-0:19}

In Public Yo Gotti kept it chill, bringing evidence of text messages sent to Dolph years back, stating that Dolph is hating because he didn’t hop on his track when he asked for a feature. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JinZ-SH11w> {13:35-14:57}

Dolph got word of his interview and addressed it after in another interview <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UdcOGSONEDM> {23:46-24:35}

Dolph countered what Yo Gotti said and stated that it was the other way around he said Gotti is the one wanting to hop on his

track <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UdcOGSONEDM> {26:28-26:52}

The tension between the two kept on rising. Blac Youngsta on the other hand took things into his own hands and posted a video warning Dolph online and also went ahead to tag him while driving in the whip and bussing shots out into the air.

On Saturday, February 25th, 2017, Young Dolph was in town for the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA) tournament weekend when around 6:30 p.m., over 100 shots were fired at Dolph’s black SUV at the intersection of 8th and North Caldwell Street near an apartment complex <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jq-ctKjl2L0> {0:24-0:34}. Apparently, this was a day after the release of his music video “Play with Yo bitch”.

Luckily no one was harmed thanks to Dolph’s bulletproof whip. Despite the horrific event, Dolph still performed that night like he hadn’t been involved in a near-death experience.

As expected after that night, people suspected that Gotti was involved with what happened to Young Dolph but Yo Gotti had to clear his name in an interview and clearly stated that he had no involvement with what happened. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3NxZbOS4g6U> {10:55-11:06}

After a thorough investigation by the police, warrants were issued for Blac Youngsta and two of his friends, Frederick Black and Antavious Gardner in connection to the attempted assassination of Dolph <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EDZxTp8GB98> {0:00-0:12}

Dolph would further taunt his opps, by releasing the project “Bulletproof” with the track listing spelling out “100 shots in Charlotte but I’m bulletproof so fuk’em that’s how I feel I’m so real I pray for my enemies I’m everything you wanna be so that’s why you envy smh.”

Blac Youngsta was released when the 6 felony counts of discharging a weapon into occupied property and 1 count of conspiracy were dropped due to lack of evidence and his airtight alibi. After the intense shoot-out, the tension and dissing seemed to have reduced.

Then few months later, the beef between Dolph and Gotti heated again after Dolph confronted Gotti at a hotel in Hollywood and Dolph ended up getting shot three times. One of Gotti’s homies named Corey McClendon was arrested for the shooting but he was eventually released because no one worked with the cops and they didn’t have enough evidence to take him to the trial.

In 2018 after the hotel shooting had subsided, Dolph was offered a twenty-two million dollar label deal but Dolph turned it down again so that he could do everything himself and make his own decisions.

In 2020, Dolph’s Album titled “Rich Slave” reached number four on Billboard. Dolph is one of those rappers who started from the bottom and made themselves millionaires. Despite being freaking rich, he was always humble and gave back massively to his community. He hosted turkey drives every year, donated thousands of dollars to schools, and even wanted to buy a

community center to help kids on the streets. Dolph learned how important charity was from his grandmother and hence started a foundation in her honor. He named the foundation “IdaMae Family Foundation”.

On November 15, 2021, he visited a cancer center in Memphis where one of his relatives had been treated. He wanted everyone there to know how much he appreciated their work. <https://youtu.be/8VdrbezZDUQ> {0:28-1:13}

He also stated that his Aunt was currently in the center and undergoing treatment for cancer. <https://youtu.be/8VdrbezZDUQ> {1:22- 2:01}. Dolph also talked about his plans to hand over turkeys to everyone in Memphis but unfortunately, his life was cut short.

On November 17, 2021, Young Dolph was at his favorite bakery in Memphis, Makeda’s Homemade Butter Cookies. While he was in the shop he was involved in a fatal shot out and shot in the head, neck, and torso. It was alleged that Dolph was strapped with his gun and even shot back but tragically, he didn’t make it.

Before his death, a video of him being in the gas station next to his luxurious car circulated on the internet. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HSlawqgWhmc> {0:05-0:10}.

His death shook the streets of Memphis as he was considered a Rap legend and was well known for the impact he made in the community with his work of charity.

It took the police several months to investigate the case and finally found some suspects in the case. A rapper called straight drop going by the legal name Justin Johnson, Cornelias Smith, and Shundale Barnett were arrested for Dolph’s murder case.

As of February 2022, Shundale Barnett was arrested alongside one of the two primary murder suspects, Justin Johnson, in Brazil, Indiana, back in January. Barnett, 27, was charged as an after-the-fact accessory to Dolph’s murder, with authorities accusing him of helping Johnson and the other suspect, Cornelius Smith, flee Memphis. Barnett was then held in Clay County, Indiana, and was supposed to be extradited back to Memphis, but as News 3 out of Memphis reports, Barnett was actually released from custody on Jan. 21. His whereabouts are now unknown and the Shelby County Sheriff’s Office has issued another warrant for his arrest on the original accessory-after-the-fact charge, as well as new attempted first-degree murder and theft of property charges.

As for how Barnett ended up being released, Clay County Sheriff Paul Harden told News 3 that Barnett was allegedly let go at the request of his counterparts in Shelby County. “We held [Barnett], contacted Shelby County, and held him on their warrant,” Harden said. “And we were contacted on Jan. 21, and they told us that they were no longer wanting to come up and pick up Mr. Barnett and that we were to release him at that time.”

As to why Barnett was released — that still remains a mystery. When asked for comment, a rep for the Shelby County Sheriff’s Office said only, “On January 11, 2022, the U.S. Marshals Service issued a warrant for Shundale Barnett for Accessory After the Fact. Due to an ongoing investigation and prosecution, we cannot comment further.” Reps for the Clay County Sheriff’s Office and the U.S. Marshals did not immediately return requests for comment. While Barnett’s whereabouts are unknown, both Johnson and Smith remain in custody after pleading not guilty to first-degree murder.

However, in November 2022, the police arrested a man named Hernandez Govan and claimed that was the one that ordered the hit. Although it’s unclear why Govan wanted Dolph dead. Govan’s daughter was a rapper signed with Lil Uzi Vert and she went by the stage name Lotta

Cash Desto. She was brutally shot to death in Houston at the age of twenty-five. <https://youtu.be/sX7ktHRizmw> {0:20-1:00}

Lil Uzi Vert also spoke at her funeral. {1:01-1:22}

About a month after her murder, Hernandez Govan posted on Facebook "I think I cursed you #Destinee with my #Lifestyle I #Apologise Baby!" <https://youtu.be/sX7ktHRizmw> {1:27-1:29}

Rumors say that her death is related to Dolph's but right now, there's no evidence to back the theory.

The Memphis Police Department said Devin Burns and Joshua Taylor, both 26, have been developed as persons of interest in the homicide. Burns, who is 5'6" and 135 lbs., already has unrelated warrants out for his arrest for aggravated assault and theft of property. Taylor is described as 6'6" and 180 lbs. Two other men, Justin Johnson and Cornelius Smith, who were indicted in the killing of the rapper, pleaded not guilty to first-degree murder and other felony charges on February 11.

Joshua Taylor was also killed at Orange Mound. <https://youtu.be/ng7oNpYIDWg> {0:00-0:13} <https://youtu.be/ng7oNpYIDWg> {0:38-1:10}

At press time it was reported that there was no suspect yet as the investigation is ongoing; a spokesperson for the Memphis Police Dept. had not returned calls requesting additional information on the case at press time. Taylor (who reportedly went by the alias CEO Teezy) was named as a person of interest in the Dolph murder case in February 2022 and according to the report he was wanted on a number of other charges, including theft of property between \$10,000-\$60,000 and possession of a prohibited weapon.

Fox 13 reported that Taylor was found shot to death inside a car and that he was thought to have been a friend of Justin Johnson, one of the two alleged shooters who've been charged in Dolph's killing. Police never charged Taylor directly in the killing and he had not been mentioned in the case, though investigators reportedly wanted to find out if Taylor knew where Johnson was on the day of Dolph's killing or if he knew anything about the murder.

Devin Burns was taken into custody and his jail records show. He is facing four counts of aggravated assault and one count of theft; the charges do not seem to be linked to Thornton's death. According to court documents, Burns fired shots in the direction of two businesses located in the 3000 block of Park Avenue. The owner of both businesses was inside of one when she saw Burns pacing back and forth outside, armed.

Three members of the business owner's family, including two young children, were attempting to leave the area when Burns allegedly opened fire. No one was injured. Court records did not explain how the charge of theft was related to the incident.

Police have not elaborated on what role Burns, is suspected of having in the sequence of events that led to Dolph's death; he is the third suspect in custody.

It's quite shocking and strange that both Hernandez Govan's daughter and Joshua Taylor who were in a way linked to Young Dolph's murder were both killed. Rumors have it that a group of people seeking to avenge the death of Young Dolph are responsible for the killings. Although no single evidence has surfaced in that regard.

However around December 2023, the judge in charge of the case removed himself from the Young Dolph Murder case. <https://youtu.be/b8gUnxZ2hCo>

The original request for Judge Coffee to recuse himself came after the Shelby County judge restricted phone privileges for Justin Johnson, one of the men charged with first-degree murder for the death of Young Dolph.



After learning that Johnson was able to release the song because he had access to a phone, Judge Coffee said Johnson "would not be allowed to use the phone or have any visitation privileges unless it is his attorney because of the inappropriate recording that he allegedly released and recorded while in jail," records from the Court of Criminal Appeals showed. Judge Coffee also filed a "DRT" order which stated "the defendant has been allegedly engaged in disruptive and inappropriate conduct involving the release of telephone communications while in the custody of the Shelby County Jail" and that Johnson was to be "placed in administrative segregation and denied all telephone, writing, and visitation privileges (excluding attorney visitation) until the disposition of this case" and that Johnson be "brought to Court by members of the DRT Unit for all scheduled court settings," court records show. Johnson then filed a motion to recuse Judge Coffee on December 12, 2022.

In Johnson's motion for Judge Coffee to recuse himself from the case, Johnson claimed "The fact, coupled with the lack of notice and an opportunity to be heard, creates an appearance of impartiality against (Johnson) such that calls into question the integrity of the judicial process and, thus, requires recusal."

Judge Coffee said that, on November 22, 2022, he called the chief jailor to discuss the medical condition of another suspect in the case. During that call, Judge Coffee asked the chief jailor how a person could release a recorded video from the jail. The deputy chief replied that a person could use a phone and Judge Coffee asked if that caused a security problem. Judge Coffee denied that he had heard the song. But, according to court records, Judge Coffee also claimed that he "purposely avoided the press, the media, newspaper print journalism when a case is in these courts" while also stating that Johnson's recording "was all over the media in Shelby County". Judge Coffee said that, in speaking to the chief jailor, he asked a "generic question, not directed towards any specific inmate" and that he would have "gladly" contacted defense counsel regarding the DRT order but that he did not have the attorneys' number until the recusal motion was filed. According to court records, Judge Coffee said that Johnson could have had a hearing on that DRT order but that Johnson instead filed for appeal. In justifying his decision, Judge Coffee told the court that he "has a caretaking responsibility to make sure (Johnson) is safe, to make sure that the public is safe, and to make sure that he gets a fair trial. Judge Coffee denied that he was biased against Johnson. On July 14, 2023, the request for Judge Coffee to recuse himself was denied. But, according to the Criminal Court of Appeals, "A judge shall disqualify himself or herself in any proceeding in which the judge's impartiality might reasonably be questioned" and that recusal is required whenever "the judge's impartiality might be reasonably questioned because the appearance of bias is as injurious to the integrity of the judicial system as actual bias".

The Criminal Court of Appeals decided that this had happened partly due to the phone call between Judge Coffee and the jailor. "Judge Coffee's phone call with the jailor clearly constituted an ex parte communication; 'the trial judge communicated with someone who was not a party to the proceeding, outside the presence of the parties or their lawyers, concerning a pending matter'," the Criminal Court of Appeals wrote. "The fact that Judge Coffee did not specifically reference the Defendant by name during the phone call does not negate the fact that he was seeking to obtain information related to the Defendant," the court records go on to say. "He stated as much when he announced from the bench during the co-defendant's hearing that he 'had a conversation with the chief jailor yesterday about a recording that was allegedly released from the jail by (Johnson)'... Even if we were to agree that the alleged security risk created by the Defendant's recording constituted an 'emergency response' justifying the ex parte phone call

with the jailor and the ex parte entry of the DRT Order, Judge Coffee did not 'promptly notify all other parties of the substance of the ex parte communication', nor did he give the Defendant the opportunity to response." Leading to their decision to reverse the court's original decision and order Judge Coffee to recuse himself, the Criminal Court of Appeals wrote that "it would appear to a reasonable person that Judge Coffee has a prejudice of a personal character, directed at the Defendant, stemming from an extrajudicial source".

Johnson was never penalized by authorities at the Shelby County Jail for releasing the song from jail.

On January 13, 2024, Rapper Yo Gotti's brother Anthony Mims also known as Big Jook was killed during a shooting that took place outside a Memphis restaurant. The police strongly believed it was a targeted attack.

<https://youtu.be/dwDaH9s1RQc> {0:19-0:52}

The incident took place outside Perignons Restaurant & Event Center around 4:15 pm, where police were told that two men were shot. One of them was Anthony 'Big Jook' Mims, who was taken to St. Francis Hospital where he was pronounced dead.

TMZ reported that Big Jook, Yo Gotti's older brother, had attended a relative's funeral service in the area earlier that same day. No suspects have been identified or arrested. "We do feel that the individual that was shot was possibly targeted by the suspect," Paul Wright said during a press conference.

Paul Wright is Memphis Deputy Police Chief.

<https://youtu.be/dwDaH9s1RQc> {1:12-1:38}

Rumors have Big Jook's death was to avenge Young Dolph's death. Some people even say that the next target might be Yo Gotti. The rumors will continue to remain rumors until an evidence surfaces.

Although the trial is still ongoing, people still hope that Young Dolph gets the justice he deserves.

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