

THE CURRENT

M A G A Z I N E DOCUMENTING THE CULTURE AS IT HAPPENS

THE VERDICT

LEGAL TEAM

WHO IS BIG DURK

OTF JAM

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WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

**SPECIAL
EDITION**

LIL DURK NOT GUILTY

FEDERAL JURY ACQUITS HIM ON ALL FIVE COUNTS
THE TRIAL & EVERY KEY PLAYER

INSIDE ISSUE

INSIDE THE SPECIAL EDITION

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LIL DURK: NOT GUILTY - THE TRIAL AND EVERY KEY PLAYER

The logo for 2FAST PRINTS features the company name in a bold, white, sans-serif font. The '2' is stylized with a horizontal bar extending to the left. The text is set against a dark background with a blurred, colorful bokeh effect in the upper portion.

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FROM THE PUBLISHER

JEWELS & GEMS FROM THE PUBLISHER

Some stories cannot wait for the regular Monday release. Lil Durk's not-guilty verdict is one of them. This moment demanded its own issue because the verdict, the testimony and the people affected deserve more than a passing headline.

This Special Edition is dedicated entirely to the trial and the key players whose strategy, testimony, choices, loss and support shaped the outcome. We identify the legal team, Big Durk, OTF Jam, Vonnie, Flaka, the co-defendants, Quando Rondo, Saviay'a "Lul Pab" Robinson and King Von because the complete story is bigger than any one name.

The result is clear: a federal jury acquitted Lil Durk on all five counts tried. That verdict matters. It means the government did not convince twelve jurors beyond a reasonable doubt that he ordered the attack described in court. It also reminds us why an accusation can never be treated as a conviction.

The next fact is just as important: Durk remains in custody because a separate federal case is pending. Celebration must remain honest. "Not guilty" in this trial does not create a release date that the court has not ordered.

We can question cooperating witnesses without pretending their admissions did not happen. We can honor the defense victory without erasing Saviay'a Robinson, the young man whose life was taken. We can respect the jury without turning grief, testimony and freedom into internet gossip.

As a publisher, I believe culture deserves coverage that is urgent, readable and responsible. Our community should understand who testified, what the lawyers argued, why credibility mattered and what the verdict actually decided. That is why every section in this issue stays focused on the courtroom record and the people at its center.

The courtroom requires proof, not popularity. Fame cannot replace evidence, and public opinion cannot replace a jury. On September 11, the jury spoke. Today, THE CURRENT documents that decision, preserves the names behind it and gives our readers the full picture.

- KB THEPLAYMAKER BARRELL, PUBLISHER

Very few can make it move.
— KB Barrell, ThePlaymaker

THE 12 LAWS OF STREET TEAM MARKETING.

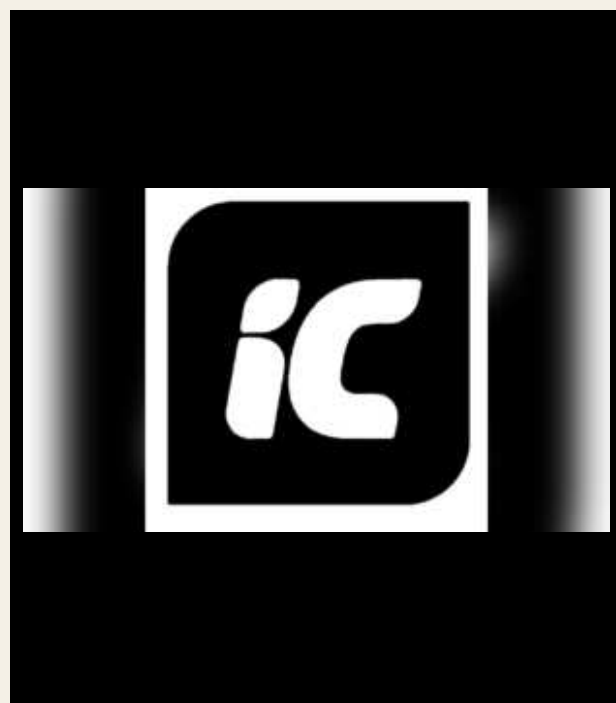
FROM THE MAN WHO BROUGHT STREET TEAM WORK BACK TO THE MUSIC INDUSTRY!

STREET TEAM WORK, MAKES THE DREAM WORK *KB ThePlaymaker*

THE 12 LAWS OF STREET TEAM MARKETING

1. NEVER CONFUSE MOTION WITH MARKETING Motion feels busy. Marketing moves product.	7. CONSISTENCY WINS Daily presence beats random hype.
2. DISTRIBUTION BEATS TALENT The best product loses without reach.	8. SYSTEMS BEAT MOMENTS Structure scales. Excitement fades.
3. OWNERSHIP IS THE ENDGAME If you don't own it, you don't control it.	9. FANS OVER FOLLOWERS Loyalty pays longer than likes.
4. RELATIONSHIPS BEAT ALGORITHMS People convert. Platforms fluctuate.	10. CULTURE OVER CLOUT Hype fades. Community lasts.
5. TOUCH THE PAVEMENT The streets validate what the internet amplifies.	11. CONTROL THE NARRATIVE If you don't tell your story, someone else will.
6. VISIBILITY IS CURRENCY If they don't see you, you don't exist.	12. EXECUTE RELENTLESSLY Ideas don't win. Execution does.

OUT NOW



THE VERDICT

NOT GUILTY

A Los Angeles federal jury acquitted Lil Durk on all five charges in the murder-for-hire trial that threatened to take away the rest of his life.



On September 11, 2026, a Los Angeles federal jury found Lil Durk not guilty on every charge presented in the government's murder-for-hire case. The Grammy-winning Chicago artist, born Durk Banks, had faced conspiracy, murder-for-hire and stalking counts tied to a 2022 Los Angeles shooting that killed Saviay'a "Lul Pab" Robinson and allegedly targeted rapper Quando Rondo.

Prosecutors said Durk ordered and financed an attack in retaliation for the 2020 killing of his close friend and OTF artist King Von. The defense said the government built its case around cooperating witnesses who had admitted their own involvement and had powerful reasons to shift blame toward the most famous defendant.

After two weeks of testimony and three days of deliberations, jurors rejected the government's case against Durk. He was acquitted of conspiracy to commit murder-for-hire, use of interstate facilities to commit murder-for-hire resulting in death, conspiracy to commit interstate stalking, interstate stalking involving a dangerous weapon and interstate stalking resulting in death.

The verdict does not erase the death at the center of the case. It does establish the lawful result: prosecutors did not prove the charges against Durk beyond a reasonable doubt. Reputation, lyrics, associations and online opinion were not enough to convict.

Durk remains in custody because a separate federal racketeering and firearms case is pending. "Not guilty" is the complete truth about this trial. "Coming home" is the next legal fight.

Sources: Associated Press; Reuters; CBS Chicago; Los Angeles Times, Sept. 11-12, 2026.

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CASE FILE

THE CASE: 2022 TO THE VERDICT

A deadly Los Angeles shooting, a federal indictment, cooperating witnesses and three days of jury deliberation led to one historic result.



The case began with an August 19, 2022 shooting near the Beverly Center in Los Angeles. Prosecutors said a group followed Quando Rondo for hours before gunfire erupted at a gas station. Rondo survived. His cousin, Saviay'a Robinson, was killed.

Federal authorities later alleged that the attack was connected to the November 2020 killing of King Von in Atlanta. In October 2024, Kavon Grant, Deandre Wilson, Keith Jones, David Lindsey and Asa Houston were charged. Durk was arrested the following day and later added to a superseding indictment.

The government's theory was that Durk used money and influence connected to Only The Family to set the attack in motion. Prosecutors pointed to travel, hotel arrangements, communications and testimony from Kacey Hester, Keith Jones and Kavon Grant. The defense argued that Grant controlled the logistics and that the cooperating witnesses had reasons to minimize their own conduct.

The trial began in August 2026. Witness credibility became the center of the fight. Defense lawyers used prior statements, jail calls and plea agreements to challenge the accounts offered by the government's cooperators. Prosecutors argued that separate pieces of evidence formed one complete chain.

On September 11, jurors returned not-guilty verdicts for Durk on all five counts. Co-defendants Deandre Wilson and David Lindsey were acquitted of murder-for-hire but convicted on stalking-related counts.

The timeline is long, but the ending is precise: accusation, trial, deliberation and acquittal.

Sources: U.S. Attorney's Office, Central District of California; AP; Courthouse News.

THE RECORD

**ACCUSATION.
TESTIMONY.
DELIBERATION.
ACQUITTAL.**

LEGAL TEAM

THE LEGAL TEAM

Drew Findling, Brian Steel and Marissa Goldberg turned a celebrity federal case into a disciplined fight over proof, witnesses and reasonable doubt.



Lil Durk entered trial facing the possibility of life in federal prison. His legal team answered with a clear strategy: separate the artist from the actions of other men, attack the reliability of cooperating witnesses and force the government to prove every link in its theory.

Drew Findling brought decades of high-profile criminal defense experience and became a visible voice for the family after the verdict. Brian Steel, widely known for his work in the Young Thug/YSL case, handled aggressive cross-examination. Marissa Goldberg delivered the defense position that Durk was not present at the shooting and had not directed it.

The team focused heavily on motive and credibility. Kacey Hester, Keith Jones and Kavon Grant had admitted serious conduct and testified under cooperation agreements. The defense argued that each man had an incentive to move responsibility upward toward Durk. Jail calls and prior statements were used to show contradictions, personal agendas and expectations about sentencing.

The lawyers also challenged the use of rap lyrics and public image as evidence of criminal intent. Their point was not that music can never be relevant; it was that art cannot fill gaps where direct proof is missing.

The result was a complete acquittal for Durk. But the work is not finished. Findling said the next mission is to remove the shackles and bring Durk home. A separate federal case means the same discipline will be required again.

This verdict belongs to the jury, but the road to it was built by a defense team that never allowed fame to replace the burden of proof.

Sources: AP; Reuters; Complex; XXL; trial coverage.

NPI MARKETING & PROMOTIONS
ARTIST DEVELOPMENT - BRAND STRATEGY



VISIBILITY BECOMES POSITION

BIG DURK

WHO IS BIG DURK?

Dontay Banks Sr. stood outside the courthouse as a father who understood both incarceration and the weight of finally hearing “not guilty.”



Dontay Banks Sr., known publicly as Big Durk, is more than Lil Durk's father. He is a man whose own history with the federal system shaped the way he watched his son's trial.

Banks spent roughly 25 years in federal prison after a drug conviction before being released in 2019. Lil Durk has spoken for years about growing up while his father was incarcerated, making their reunion a major part of the family's public story.

During the 2026 trial, Big Durk became one of the clearest family voices outside the courthouse. He criticized what he viewed as weak evidence and remained visible as proceedings moved toward closing arguments. After the acquittal, he described the family as being on a high and said he was bursting with joy.

His reaction also carried restraint. Speaking about Saviay'a Robinson's mother, Banks acknowledged the pain of losing a child and expressed sympathy. That response mattered because the verdict produced celebration for one family while another family's loss remained unchanged.

Big Durk's presence gave the trial a generational frame: a father who lost decades to federal prison watching his son face charges that could have produced the same outcome. The not-guilty verdict interrupted that possibility, at least in this case.

The next challenge is the pending federal trial that keeps Durk in custody. Big Durk's role will remain what it was throughout this case—father, public supporter and witness to a legal fight that is not yet fully over.

Sources: ABC7/KABC; Complex; XXL; post-verdict interviews.

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OTF JAM

OTF JAM: THE FIRST COOPERATOR

Kacey Hester admitted being one of the shooters and became the government's first major witness against Lil Durk.



Kacey Hester, known as OTF Jam, entered the trial with a position unlike Durk's. Hester had pleaded guilty and admitted that he was one of three masked gunmen who fired on Quando Rondo's vehicle at the Los Angeles gas station.

On the witness stand, Hester described the planning, travel and shooting. He testified that the attack felt sloppy, said Saviya Robinson was innocent and claimed Durk later asked what happened. He also told jurors that Durk had discussed a large reward, although Hester said he was never paid for the shooting.

The defense attacked Hester's credibility from several directions. Brian Steel confronted him with his history of violence, his decision to cooperate after another arrest and the benefit he hoped to receive at sentencing. Hester insisted he had not been promised a specific outcome, even though cooperation could be considered.

The testimony gave prosecutors an inside account from a self-admitted participant. It also gave the defense a witness carrying enormous baggage. That tension became central to the case: jurors had to decide how much weight to give a man who admitted the crime and stood to gain from helping the government.

The final verdict shows that Hester's testimony, combined with the remaining evidence, did not persuade the jury beyond a reasonable doubt that Durk ordered the attack.

Hester's admissions remain his own. Durk's acquittal remains Durk's. The law requires those responsibilities to be judged separately.

Sources: Courthouse News; Rolling Stone; The Guardian; trial reporting.



VONNIE

VONNIE: THE ASSISTANT AT THE CENTER

Kavon London Grant was described as Durk's right-hand man. The defense portrayed him as the person who controlled the operation.



Kavon London Grant, known as Vonnie and Cuz, occupied the most contested position in the government's case. Prosecutors described him as Lil Durk's assistant and trusted right-hand man. The defense described him as the person who organized the shooting and later tried to place Durk above him.

Grant pleaded guilty and testified for the government. He said Durk provided information about Quando Rondo's location and directed his participation. Prosecutors tied Grant to travel arrangements, hotel payments and the purchase of ski masks, arguing that those actions connected OTF resources to the attack.

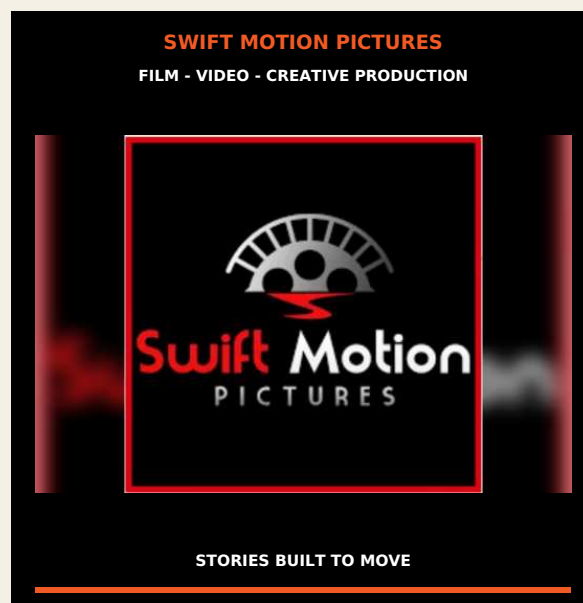
The defense made Grant's credibility a central target. Jurors heard jail calls in which he discussed his cooperation, his desired sentence and possible plans to profit from the case. Durk's lawyers argued that those conversations showed a witness shaping his story to protect himself.

This was the prosecution's challenge: Grant could explain the logistics because he was close to them, but that closeness also gave him the strongest reason to redirect blame. The defense did not have to prove every detail of an alternative theory. It only had to show that Grant's account could not safely support a conviction beyond a reasonable doubt.

The jury acquitted Durk. That does not erase Grant's plea or decide every disputed fact. It means jurors were not persuaded that his testimony and the surrounding evidence proved Durk's guilt.

Vonnie was not a side character. He was the hinge between the government's theory and the defense's theory—and the hinge did not hold the case together.

Sources: Los Angeles Magazine; Los Angeles Times; DOJ indictment; Reuters.



FLAKA / FLACKA

FLAKA: THE SECOND SHOOTER ON THE STAND

Keith “Flacka” Jones admitted his role, described the money he expected and testified that Lil Durk never paid him.



Keith Jones, identified in federal records as “Flacka” and often called Flaka online, became another crucial cooperating witness. Jones pleaded guilty in connection with Saviay’a Robinson’s killing and then took the stand against Lil Durk.

Jones described participating in the Los Angeles attack and expecting a major payment. But one part of his testimony cut in both directions: he said Durk never paid him. Prosecutors could argue that a promised payment still showed a murder-for-hire agreement. The defense could argue that the absence of payment weakened the claim that Durk hired anyone.

As with Kacey Hester and Kavon Grant, credibility was the issue. Jones was not a neutral observer describing something he happened to see. He was an admitted participant seeking consideration from the government. Jurors had to weigh what he knew against what he wanted.

The government presented the cooperating witnesses as separate voices confirming the same plan. The defense presented them as men trying to reduce their own punishment by attaching Durk’s name to conduct they had already admitted.

The acquittal does not declare that every word Jones spoke was false. It means the complete case—including his testimony—did not meet the burden required to convict Durk.

His role also shows why headlines must use exact names. The indictment spells the alias “Flacka.” Social coverage often shortens it to “Flaka.” The man is Keith Jones, and his sworn testimony was part of a federal record, not simply internet gossip.

Sources: DOJ; Complex; XXL; trial coverage.

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CODEFENDANTS

DEDE & BROWNEYEZ: THE SPLIT VERDICT

Deandre Wilson and David Lindsey beat the murder-for-hire counts but were convicted on stalking-related charges.



The jury did not return one blanket answer for every defendant. Deandre “DeDe” Wilson and David “Browneyez” Lindsey were acquitted of murder-for-hire but convicted of conspiracy to commit stalking, stalking with a dangerous weapon and stalking resulting in death.

That split verdict is essential to understanding the case. Jurors could reject the government's claim that the defendants acted under a murder-for-hire agreement while still finding that Wilson and Lindsey knowingly participated in tracking and attacking Quando Rondo.

Prosecutors said Wilson traveled to Los Angeles as part of the original group and helped bring Jones and Lindsey into the operation. Witnesses placed Lindsey among the shooters at the gas station. The defense teams challenged the proof and argued that the government had not established the charged agreement.

The outcome shows that jurors evaluated the counts separately. They did not simply accept or reject the entire prosecution narrative. Durk received acquittals across the board. Wilson and Lindsey received acquittals on the central murder-for-hire allegations and convictions on the stalking counts.

Their attorneys have indicated that they will challenge the remaining convictions. Sentencing and post-trial motions will determine what those verdicts mean for each man's future.

For readers, the key is precision. Saying “everyone was found not guilty” would be wrong. Saying “the jury accepted the whole murder-for-hire theory” would also be wrong. The split decision reflects a jury sorting individual conduct and legal elements one charge at a time.

Sources: Associated Press; CBS Chicago; Reuters.

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VICTIMS & TARGET

QUANDO RONDO & LUL PAB

Quando Rondo was the alleged target. His cousin Saviay'a Robinson was the person killed. Their names belong at the center of the record.



Tyquian Bowman, known professionally as Quando Rondo, was the person prosecutors said the group intended to kill. Saviay'a Robinson, known as Lul Pab, was Bowman's cousin and the person who died in the August 2022 gas-station shooting.

The case was often reduced online to Lil Durk versus Quando Rondo, but that framing can erase Robinson. He was 24 years old. Whatever rivalries, lyrics or affiliations surrounded the event, he was the person whose life ended.

Prosecutors argued that the attack grew from the November 2020 confrontation in Atlanta that killed King Von. They alleged that Durk sought retaliation against Bowman because a member of Bowman's circle shot Von. The defense denied that Durk ordered the Los Angeles attack.

Witnesses testified that the group followed Bowman's vehicle before gunmen opened fire. Bowman survived. Robinson did not. At trial, Kacey Hester acknowledged that Robinson was innocent and said he felt troubled by the outcome.

After Durk's acquittal, Big Durk publicly expressed sympathy for Robinson's mother. That recognition matters. A not-guilty verdict answers whether prosecutors proved charges against a defendant. It does not answer a family's grief or restore what was lost.

Responsible coverage can report the acquittal without turning Robinson into a footnote. It can explain who Bowman was in the prosecution's theory without pretending the rivalry itself proves who ordered the shooting.

The verdict belongs to the courtroom. The loss belongs to Robinson's family. Both are part of the true story.

Sources: AP; Courthouse News; Reuters; Los Angeles Times.

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ALLEGED MOTIVE

KING VON & THE ALLEGED MOTIVE

Prosecutors said King Von's 2020 death created the motive. The defense said grief and lyrics were not proof of an order.



Dayvon Bennett, known as King Von, was Lil Durk's close friend, collaborator and OTF artist. His death after a November 2020 confrontation in Atlanta became the emotional foundation of the government's murder-for-hire theory.

Prosecutors said Durk was consumed by revenge and placed a bounty on Quando Rondo, whose associate Timothy "Lul Timm" Leeks shot Von during the confrontation. Charges against Leeks were later dropped under Georgia's stand-your-ground law.

The government used communications, witness testimony and rap lyrics to argue that Durk wanted retaliation. The defense said grief, angry music and loyalty to a fallen friend did not prove that Durk ordered a specific crime in Los Angeles nearly two years later.

That distinction became one of the trial's most important cultural questions. Hip-hop often transforms lived experience into art. Prosecutors may argue that lyrics reveal intent, but jurors must still decide whether the words connect to an actual agreement and criminal act.

Von's legacy also complicated the public conversation. Fans heard the case through years of music, neighborhood alliances and online conflict. The courtroom could not decide those emotions. It could only decide the charges and evidence before it.

The jury found Durk not guilty. That means the alleged motive did not become proven responsibility. Von's death remains part of the history, but it cannot substitute for evidence tying Durk to the 2022 shooting.

The culture may continue debating the story. The legal record now includes a verdict that must be respected.

Sources: AP; Los Angeles Times; DOJ; public court records.

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WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

The murder-for-hire trial is over. Durk's fight for physical freedom now moves to a separate federal racketeering and firearms case.



Lil Durk won the case that dominated headlines, but he did not walk out of the courthouse. Reporting after the verdict says he remains in federal custody while awaiting a separate trial scheduled for October 5.

That pending case involves different racketeering, murder-related and firearms allegations. The charges were severed, so the jury that acquitted Durk on September 11 did not decide them. He remains presumed innocent in the new case unless prosecutors prove those allegations beyond a reasonable doubt.

His legal team can now concentrate on release arguments, pretrial motions, witness challenges and the evidence supporting the remaining counts. The acquittal may strengthen public confidence in the defense, but it does not automatically control a separate prosecution.

For Durk's family and business team, discipline is essential. They can accurately celebrate a complete acquittal in this trial. They should not announce a homecoming date before a court authorizes release. The strongest communication is the simplest: he beat these charges; another fight remains.

The commercial attention will be immediate. Streams, catalog searches and interest in the first interview or song after custody will rise. But legal strategy must come before marketing. Anything said publicly can shape the environment surrounding the next proceeding.

THE CURRENT will follow court orders and verified reporting—not rumor pages claiming to know when he will be free. The headline today is NOT GUILTY. The next headline has not been written.

This victory preserved Durk's future. The coming weeks will decide how soon he can physically return to it.

Sources: Reuters; AP; ABC7/KABC; People, Sept. 2026.

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