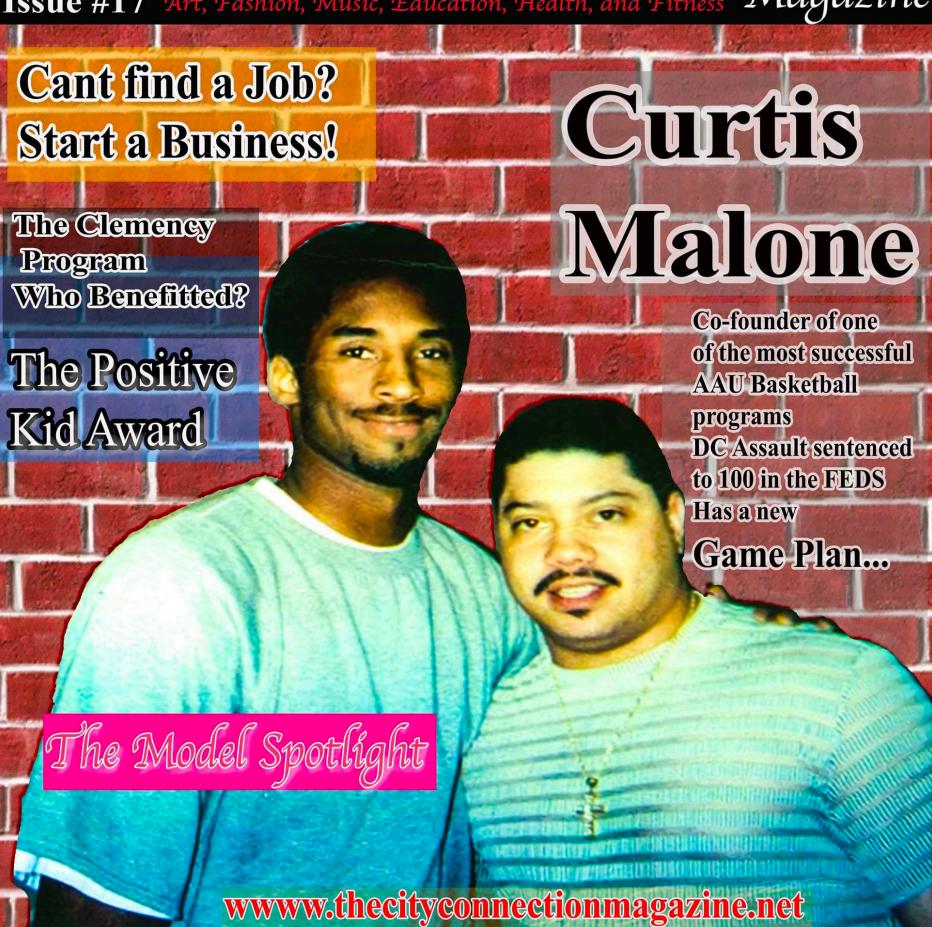
# The City Connection

Issue #17 Art, Fashion, Music, Education, Health, and Fitness Magazine





Dedicated to my son, Khiree Johnson. Love, Dad.

THE CITY CONNECTION

Magazine







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# Whats inside...

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- Obama's Clemency Program. Who Benefitted?
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And more . . . . . . . .

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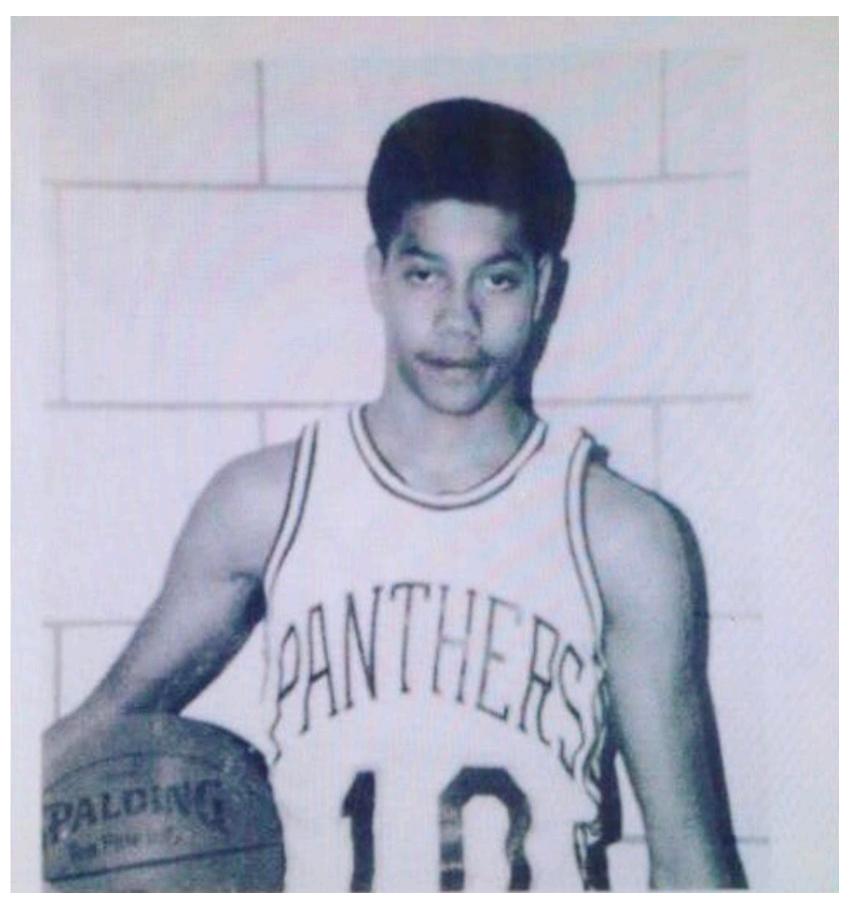
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#### Positive Kid Award



This month's positive kid award goes to 7 year old **Jonah Craft**. He enjoys reading, playing football and superheros. He is a student at Thurgood Marshall Elementary School.

# **Curtis Malone** By Javone Johnson



Shown above, Curtis Malone.

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Curtis Malone, shown to the left at Lewisburg Federal Prison Camp.

**Curtis Malone**, co-founder of DC Assault, was sentenced to 100 months in prison on federal drug charges, but now he speaks out for the first time with an exclusive interview with J. Johnson.

Q. Being that you have had an extensive history in the sport of basketball, what was your inspiration?

A. I have had some pretty good people in my life during my upbringing. The athletes who showed me love and mentored me were either users or sellers of drugs. No one ever really, ever made it and I wasn't any different because I became a 'product of my environ-

ment.' I chose the streets over education and basketball. I wanted to make a difference in the lives of children so that they do not make the same bad choices that myself and thousands of others have made. That is when I decided to begin coaching and mentoring kids.

Q. What role did your parents play?

A. My parents played a very important role because they did not raise me to make the choices that I made, and I always knew that. My parents and family were great, and I always strived to make them proud following the disappointments.

Q. I understand you played college basketball, describe the experience. A. I played a little bit of college ball but never really took either of the two as serious as I should have. I always had one foot in and one foot out, but it was a fun and wonderful experience. I attended four different colleges and met some great people from across the country.

Q. You have a reputation for inspiring the youth and creating avenues for them to go to and from the AAU at some of the top

#### **Curtis Malone** By Javone Johnson

colleges in the country, how do you make these accomplishments possible? A. When I first got involved with coaching, I surrounded myself with good people who I could learn from who mentored me and gave me the blueprint, and from there I took it to another level. I was surrounded with a few other good brothers who shared similar motives. Being surrounded by good people and shoe companies was the perfect recipe for running a successful youth program. I would like to

thank NIKE, ADIDAS and

their support.

UNDER ARMOUR for all of

Q. Now that you are in a transitional point in your life, what are your immediate plans to prepare for your future? A. I always keep up with the AAU and basketball world and am doing my best to keep opportunities open. I made a big mistake but was fortunate enough not to burn any bridges. Once I am closer to my release date, I will weigh all my options and leave it in God's hands as I truly believe that he has good things in store for me.

Q. How is your relationship with your children?

A. My relationship with my children is great. It is obvious when you have been a great parent to vour children because NOTHING can ever break your bond. Thankfully, the mothers of my children would never allow my children to turn their back on their dad. They have seen and been taught first hand to never judge anyone. They are also aware that their dad has never turned his

back on anyone and that is the absolute code that I live by. Once released, I will make up for 'lost time' because I did not allow the system to 'finish' me, as I have been strong enough to stand the test of time.

Q. They say that "the fruit does not fall far from the tree", and with that being said, we hear that you have a very talented daughter who is currently a marketing entrepreneur, tell us more about her.

A. Actually, Sidney is my stepdaughter and she is absolutely building a great brand for herself.
She is extremely bright, energetic, and motivated.
She has created an APP and is trying to get the right people behind it to move it forward. She also builds websites and social

media platforms, amongst other things. My second oldest daughter, Tanay, is currently enrolled in a Nursing program and owns her own transportation company. My youngest daughter is currently a junior in college and my stepson, Nolan Smith, was hired by Coach K and is now officiallv a staff member at Duke University. As their father, I couldn't be happier.

Q. What is one of your most memorable moments during your AAU scouting days?

A. I have many good memories but one of my favorites is during the time I first became affiliated with NIKE (thanks to John Thompson). My team and I had the privilege of playing against Lamar Odom's team (Long Island Panthers) for the championship in Baltimore, Maryland. Fortunately for us, we defeated them and received a call from Coach Gary Charles, who extended us an invitation to speak directly with Sonny Vacarrd. Honestly, I wasn't too familiar with Sonny, but did agree to bring our team to Vegas. One year later, we merged with

ADIDAS and that was the

beginning of the DC Assault Life era. Shortly after, our team had become amongst the elite basketball teams in the United States. Q. Who are some of your favorite players? A. Truthfully, I don't really have a 'favorite' player. Each of the kids faced different obstacles. so naturally I took more to the kids who were less fortunate and had an unstable home life. Frank McQueen, Delonte Hill, Demarr Johnson, Michael Beasley, Tyree Graham, Junior Etou, and of course Nolan Smith, who became my stepson, all lived with me full time as we were all extremely close. thing about your life, what

Q. If you could change anywould you do differently? A. I definitely wouldn't have ever been associated with the drug game, no way, no how. I regret the pain and hurt I have caused my family due to my irresponsible actions and selfish ways. Also, I would have never been associated with the people knew I was headed straight to prison but, enjoyed the luxuries of the lifestyle that I provided for them so much that they weren't genuine enough to encourage me to cease the illegal activity and get back on

track. Overall, all that I went through was a valuable learning experience and good or bad, I cherish what I have learned from it.

Q. Any encouraging word for the youth?
A. Life is about the choices you make, so please think before you make stupid choices that you may regret for the rest of your life. Go to college, get your degree and if you inspire to be an athlete and that doesn't work out, there are many, many other ways to be a productive citizen.

The people who genuinely love and care for you are the ones who will always tell you when you are doing wrong versus going along with whatever you say and do. If anyone who reads this is interested in reaching out to me via letter or by phone, please feel free. Lastly, my advice to the young men who have and/ or will be fortunate enough to make it out of their harsh environment, please remember to give back no matter what. 'Each one, help one' should always be your mentality as you head for the top.

Q. You have helped a lot of people financially with-

out asking for anything in return, now that you are incarcerated, has anyone reached out to you in regard to financial support and/or visits, letters, or cards? A. That is correct, I definitely helped out A LOT of families. However, I have received more support from people I barely know, rather than from people that reaped the benefits of my lifestyle previously. I also received cards and letters from kids who had never been enrolled in my program but had the urge to show their support and some of my childhood friends that love me unconditionally. I have had a fair share of visits, but only about 15% of my help comes from the DC Assault family. Q. Do you feel that the justice system dealt you a fair hand? A. Yes, I do, now that I live by a different code. I absolutely believe that, 'if you do the crime, you must do the time'. I feel that my situation has made me a better man than I was previously because I am more aware and conscious of my ac-

Q. What are some of life's lessons that you have instilled in the youth?
A. I have always tried to

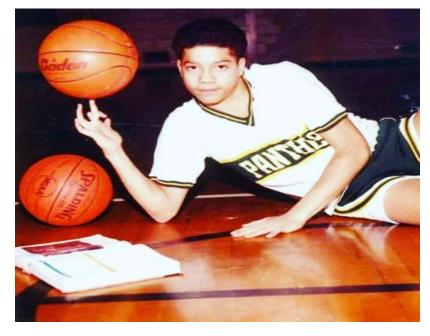
tions.

instill loyalty into the minds of children. The majority of them have no idea what the word 'loyalty' actually means. I also made it my business to instill in them to never forget where they come from and do not forget about the people to help them get there. Also, be a leader, not a follower and always be honest.

Q. Do you have the same passion for youth achievement?
A. Yes, I do have the same passion but would never consider going back to the AAU but will continue to

ways upon my release. **@thecurtismalone** 

help the youth in other



Shown above, Curtis Malone.

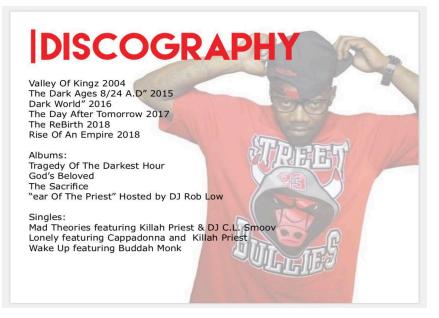


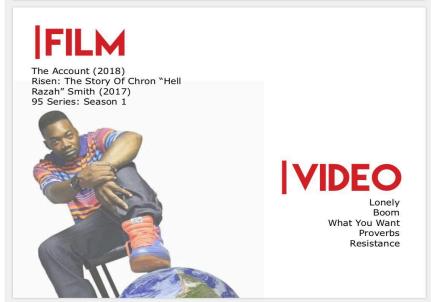
Judah Priest, an American Hip Hop native of Philadelphia who now resides in NewYorkCity, is an avid poet and lyricist. Being inspired-by his cousin at the age of 7 he began rapping around his friends and in local talent showcases. Living most of his life in Philly; surrounded by the influence of sex, money, drugs, popularity and the constant rush for fame, he wanted more out of life and at the age of 17, Wu-Tang Clan affiliate Buddha Monk best friend & brotherof Old Dirty Bastard took Priest under his wing and made him a keyfamily member of Brooklyn Zu.

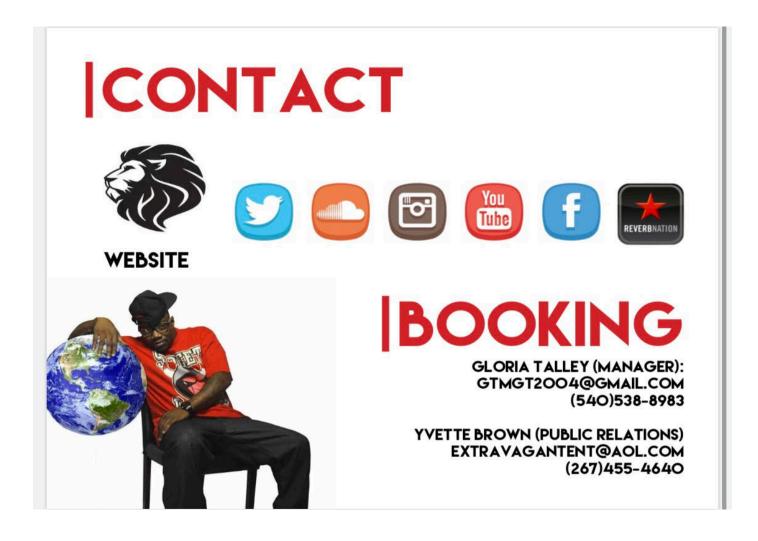
#### Performed With:

Ghostface Killah · Kool G Rap · Channel Live · Poor Righteous
Teachers · Inspectah Deck · Method Man · Cappadonna · PMD
of E.P.M.D · Spliff Star of Flipmode Squad · Junior Reid · Buddha Monk · Hell Razah, Force MD's · Maino · Red Café · LA Da
Darkman · Whitney Peyton · Raekwon Da Chef · Ghostface
Killah · Method Man & Redman · Wise Intelligent (Poor Righteous Teachers) · Hakim Green( Channel Live) · Smif & Wesson
· Sean Price · ShabaamSadeeq · RasKas · Timbo King · Young
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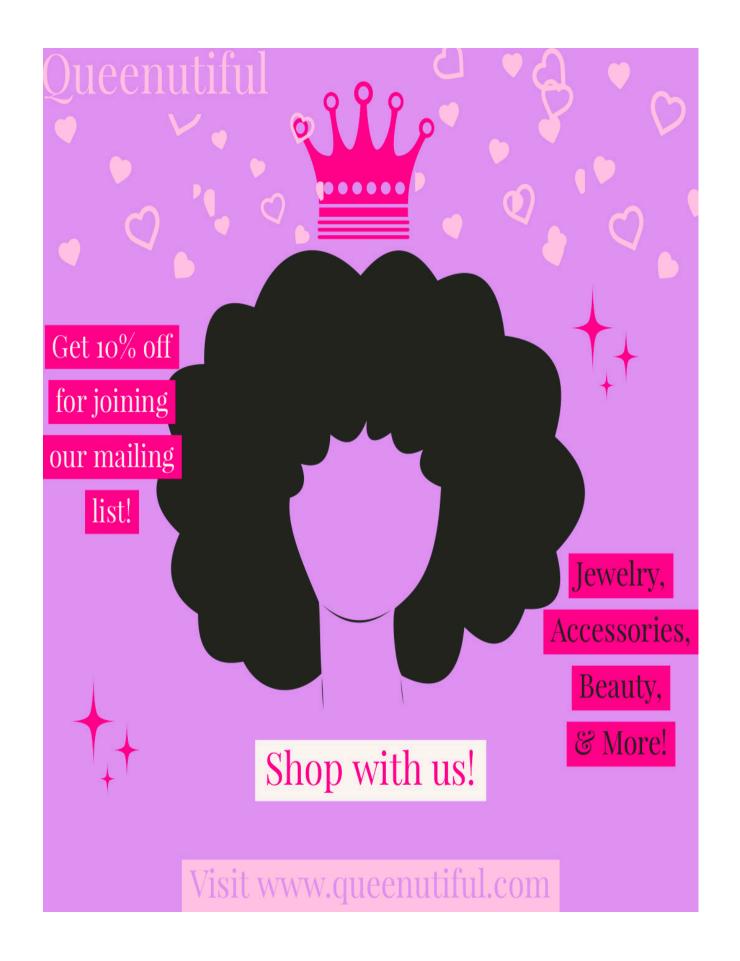
#### Judah Priest







## Can't find a job? Start a business! What's Mo-

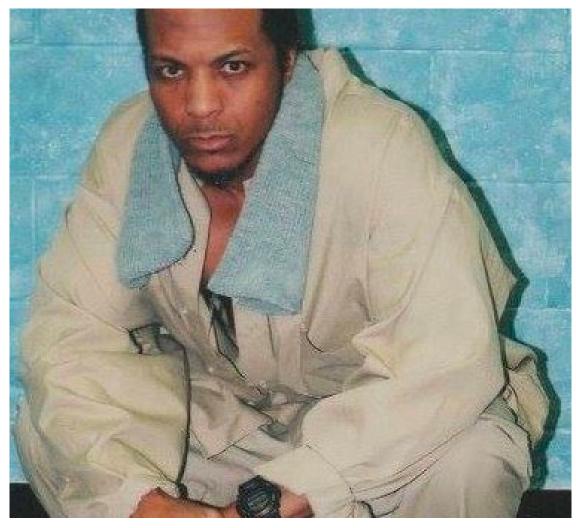


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# Entrepreneurs are winning!



@toplevelboutique



Shown above, **Timothy Adams**.

#### What's Movin?

What's Movin? The City Connection Magazine is now in your area! Our featured guest is a man who has faced adversity and grabbed it by the horns. This is a man who doesn't know the meaning of giving up. Not only did he receive a life sentence, but he also gave it (his life sentence) back thanks to our former President Barack Obama's Clemency Program. The City Connection Magazine is proud to introduce Mr. Timothy Adams.

(Javone) Question: Timothy tell us your full name and where you're from

(Timothy) Answer: Timothy Adams aka (Smithy) aka (Trinity). Born and raised in Brooklyn, NY with strong family ties in the south.

(Javone): It is my understanding that you were a major drug kingpin, how did you get your start in the game?

(Timothy): Well, the government's theory is that I was the leader and large operator of a drug conspiracy from 1989 lasting up until November of 1994.

(Javone): Who were some of the people that you looked up to in the game?

(Timothy): Well, like I said it was the government's

theory that I was in the game.

(Javone): In what year did your drug empire begin to expand to a large scale operation?

(Timothy): The United States Attorney's office filed a sealed indictment on December 19 th, 1994, charging me with one count of "Conspiracy to Distribute Crack Cocaine" from 1989 up until 1994.

(Javone): How old were you?

(Timothy): I was 27 years old.

(Javone): What is your nationality?

(Timothy): The government's documents have me listed as an African American.

(Javone): What type of cars did you drive? Did you buy jewelry and homes?

(Timothy): I like cars. I had two BMW's back in the 80's. I had two E Benz's back in the early 90's and I had a red drop top AMG Benz in the mid 1990's, before my incarceration. Oh, I also had a black LS 400 Lexus back in 1991. I liked jewelry back then, and had some of

the finest jewelry money could buy. I lived in some nice town houses in the south.

(Javone): I understand that you were in the military?

(Timothy): Yes, I was in the ARMY.

(Javone): How much money did you accumulate in the drug game?

(Timothy): Not applicable

(Javone): How much did you make per day (the most)?

(Timothy): Not applicable

(Javone): When did the violence come?

(Timothy): I never believed in violence as it was never alleged at my trial.

(Javone): What year did it all come to an end?

(Timothy): January 18, 1995.

Timothy Adams (Javone): Did you receive a life sentence? How did you feel?

(Timothy): Yes, I received a life sentence in August of 1995. I felt numb and sad. I just couldn't believe what was happening to me. (Javone): Where did you do your time?

(Timothy): I started my time at USP Allenwood, PA. I stayed there from 1996 up until 2004. I was then transferred to FCI-Fairton, NJ from 2004 until 2016.

(Javone): You are very connected, what industry connects (rap industry) do you know?

(Timothy): Well, I'm not connected to any rappers but, I know a few of them through other people. I do have a female rapper that is like my little sister and her name is Lynise "Queenpen" Walters. I would like to give a special shout out to James Rosemond aka (Jimmy Henchmen).

(Javone): When did your determination to fight for your freedom emerge?

(Timothy): I have been fighting my case ever since I was convicted on April 13 th, 1995.

(Javone): What case law did you cite to fight your case?

(Timothy): Besides Strickland v. Washington, United States v. Booker, United States v. Apprendi, and United States v. Johnson.

(Javone): I see that you are a published author, tell us about your book "True Short Story".

(Timothy): The book is about how I was wrongfully convicted and how unjust the Federal Court Systems are.

(Javone): Who stayed by your side during your incarceration?

**Timothy Adams** 

(Timothy): My mom and my woman and future wife to be.

(Javone): How did you overturn your life sentence?

(Timothy): On August 3 rd, 2016, the President of the United States including Pardon Attorney felt that I deserved a second chance at a new life and commuted my life sentence to a term of 360 months, through Executive Clemency.

(Javone): What are your future plans?

(Timothy): To be all that I can be. To help all that I can help.

(Javone): Any children? A

wife?

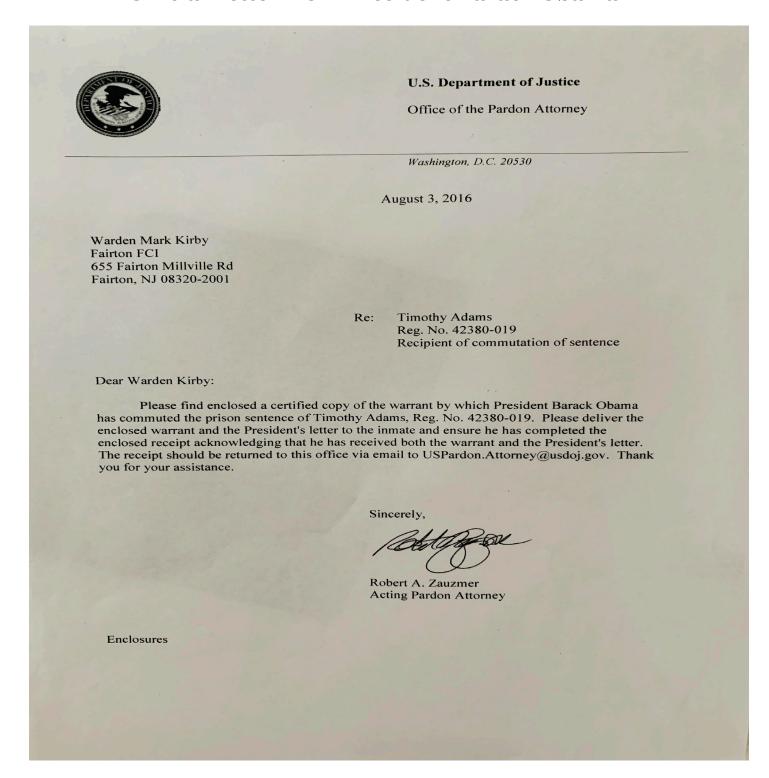
(Timothy): Yes, eight. One passes away.

(Javone): Any shout outs?

(Timothy): Yes, to the Pardon Attorney's Office, the Attorney General's Office of 2016, and to my President Obama. Thank you Mr. President for giving me my life back, I will never let you down.

First and foremost, I would like to salute my manager Terrance Neal aka (Slams), aka (T-Berg) from Brooklyn NY, raised in Crown Heights (905 East Flatbush), Brownsville. He made the connection to this wonderful magazine.

#### Official Letter from President Barack Obama



#### Official Letter from President Barack Obama

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 3, 2016

Mr. Timothy Adams Fairton FCI 655 Fairton-Millville Road Fairton, New Jersey 08320

Dear Timothy,

I wanted to personally inform you that I am granting your application for commutation.

The power to grant pardons and clemency is one of the most profound authorities granted to the President of the United States. It embodies the basic belief in our democracy that people deserve a second chance after having made a mistake in their lives that led to a conviction under our laws. Thousands of individuals have applied for commutation, and only a fraction of these applications are approved.

I am granting your application because you have demonstrated the potential to turn your life around. My decision to commute your sentence will not result in your immediate release, and you will be required to serve additional time to reflect the seriousness of your offense. I understand you may be pleased by the commutation grant but disappointed with the remaining period you will have to serve. It is up to you to make the most of your remaining time in federal custody -- to take advantage of the educational and vocational programming offered so that you have the tools you need to succeed in your second chance. It will not be easy, and you will confront many who doubt people with criminal records can change.

But remember that you have the capacity to make good choices. By doing so, you will affect not only your own life, but those close to you. You will also influence, through your example, the possibility that others in your circumstances get their own second chance in the future.

I believe in your ability to prove the doubters wrong, and change your life for the better. So good luck, and Godspeed.

Sincerely,

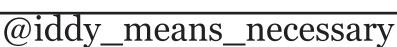


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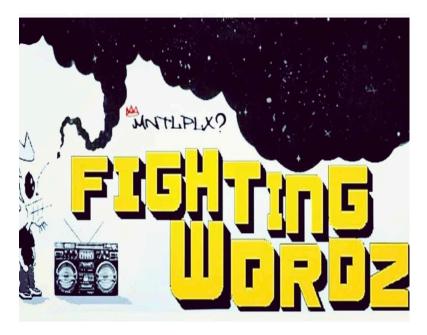
#### The Mixtape Corner







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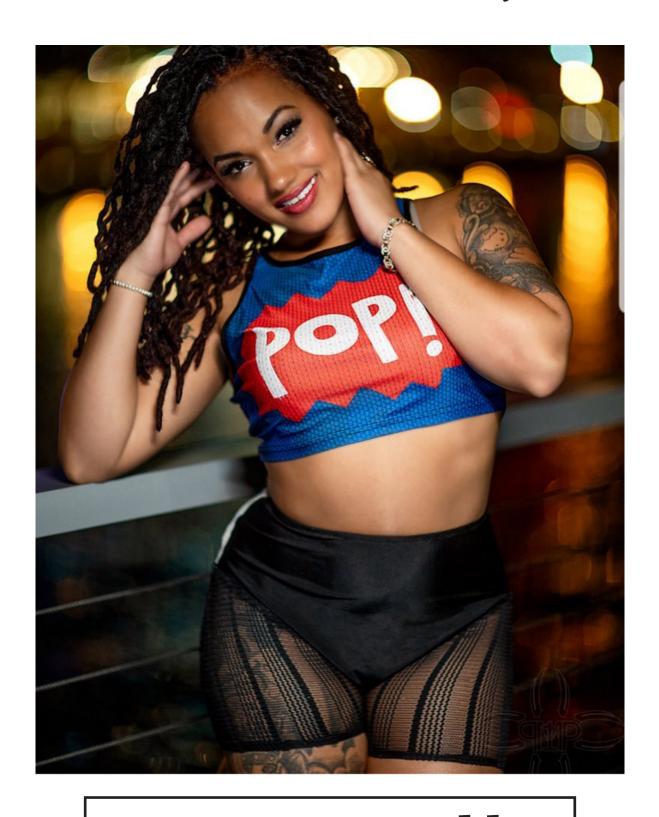






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# Model Spotlight



@gypsyyy\_redd



TEDDY RILEY MIGOS PUSHAT SZA JANELLE MONÁE JBALVIN LIL UZI VERT DIPLO ROSALÍA KAWS MAC DEMARCO TRAVIS SCOTT DAVE MATTHEWS BAND

PHARRELL & FRIENDS INCLUDING: DIDDY, MISSY ELLIOTT,

INCLUDING: DIDDY, MISSY ELLIOTY, USHER, GWEN STEFANI, SNOOP DOGG

FERG MAGGIE ROGERS LEIKELI47

JADEN SMITH DEEPAK CHOPRA VIRGIL ABLOH

MASEGO KAYTRANADA RADIANT CHILDREN

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