

Dr Dre's Lawyer Request Dismissal of Suit

Written by Robert ID1038

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Lawyers for legendary rap artist and hip-hop producer Dr. Dre, Time Warner Inc. and Best Buy Co. have asked a federal judge to dismiss a lawsuit brought by former Detroit city employees who were videotaped backstage at a concert five years ago.

The request came Monday at a hearing before U.S. District Judge Paul Gadola in Flint.

The employees filed suit over video footage taken backstage at a July 6, 2000, concert at Joe Louis Arena that was part of Dr. Dre's Up in Smoke Tour, which also featured Michigan rap artist Eminem.

The video showed the Detroit employees in a boisterous argument with some of Dr. Dre's representatives. It was used in a documentary about the concert released two years later.

Attorney Glenn Oliver, representing former mayoral spokesman Greg Bowens, Paula Bridges and Gary Brown, then with the Detroit Police Department, said his clients were unaware the footage would be used in the documentary "Detroit Controversy" and did not authorize their appearance.

Herschel Fink, a lawyer for the defendants, said that everyone in the dispute knew cameras were rolling, according to the Detroit Free Press.

U.S. District Judge Paul Gadola is expected to issue a written statement regarding the motion in the near future.

Time Warner is being named in the suit because it distributed and marketed the DVD. Best Buy is named because it sold the DVD.

Dr. Dre, aka Andre Young, was not at Monday's court hearing.

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