

## MAURICE GUNN / BIO



As a young child growing up in the streets of Chicago, life for Maurice Gunn was far more difficult than many of his peers. One of the earliest and most memorable tragedies he would face was losing his father to senseless gang violence. While too young to mourn, this tragedy gave him foresight and an everlasting understanding of the severity of the gang lifestyle, as well as the violence that ensues. As a teen, Maurice was determined to lead by example. He never joined a gang; he instead became a well-respected mediator for rival gang members, and was able to resolve many neighborhood conflicts. The ability to mediate and resolve conflicts, earned Maurice popularity amongst multiple gang members throughout the community. While moving freely throughout the community and multiple gang territories, Maurice realized he had a gift; the gift of bringing people together. This gift would eventually become the foundation of all his endeavors.

Maurice began his path as a local party promoter. He was able to unite members of the community to form his very own street team. His positive attitude, quick wit, and leadership skills led him to form his own company titled, "Elite Entertainment". What started as a dream to simply promote parties, quickly blossomed into a full independent management and entertainment company. With this new role, Maurice immediately and effectively applied his street sense to the competitive business world, and developed his own successful brand of urban marketing. When asked what he gained most from his first company, he asserts "it showed me that I could turn my love for bringing people together and helping the community, into a successful marketing and promotion business. The same unique and innovative methods I used for my own company, I can also use to help others. I wanted the same amount of success for all business owners as I wanted for my company". This introspective philosophy, paired with his love for the urban community, led Maurice to a series of successful ventures. This transformation was only the beginning.

Maurice was introduced to political consultant and self-made millionaire, Mazonne Jackson. Mazonne Jackson became an influential mentor in Maurice's life. He pushed Maurice well beyond his own goals and aspirations. In addition to targeting members of the community, Maurice wanted to include politicians, major corporations, charitable organizations, entrepreneurs and small business owners. Maurice's fame and popularity quickly spread throughout Chicago's urban community. Using wisdom, knowledge and past experiences, Maurice created multiple programs. These programs provided cost efficient marketing strategies to support urban business owners, including promoters and local entertainers. One of the first programs he launched was through radio. Maurice developed a plan which enabled him to purchase an hour every week on a local radio station, 1530 AM. Within weeks, 1530 AM allowed Maurice his own urban radio program, titled Chicago Only Radio, which was the first amongst their all talk programming. Chicago Only Radio became one of the most listened to programs on the entire radio station, and quickly took on a life of its own. Maurice became known as the go-to-man of Chicago.

Maurice became a very influential person throughout the community. Despite having formed many positive relationships, a large and diverse client base, resourceful and successful urban marketing and promotion techniques, Maurice still felt a void in his life. As the Chicago murder and crime rate increased, Maurice began to reflect on how difficult his life was after experiencing the tragedy of losing his father to gang violence. As murder and violence increased, Maurice felt even more compelled to make a difference in the community. The love and passion Maurice felt for the community, prompted him to shift all of his attention and efforts towards helping solve the problem. Maurice

had finally found his true purpose in life. Maurice made the difficult decision to dissolve all of his successful and profitable business ventures, to join the fight. After realizing his purpose in life, he became a very important and active member of his church organization. He went on to form a youth ministry which included multiple training and empowerment programs. Maurice served as a mentor to at-risk children and formed many anti-violence campaigns, as well as a successful gang prevention program. Maurice did not stop there. He distributed food throughout the urban community free of charge on a regular basis. The void he once felt was finally filled after forming a Non for Profit organization titled, "Save Our Streets" or "S.O.S". Maurice Gunn is a living example of what it means to be a leader, and the mission of S.O.S, which is simply... "Dedicated to Supplying Resources and Needs to our Urban Communities".

Thank you  
Maurice Gunn  
mauricegunn36@yahoo.com  
305. 741-1053

The following photo gallery is of programs and activities formed or participated by Maurice Gunn.

1. 1st Place in CNT's 2016 Urban Sustainability Apps Competition.
2. Kurt Summers for Chicago City Treasurer Campaign (Volunteer). Chicago City Treasurer Kurt Summers "77 Proud" Marching Campaign In the Hyde Park Parade (March Leader). Chicago City Treasurer Kurt Summers Bud Billiken parade march (March Leader) Cook County Commissioner Richard Boykin Back to School parade march (March Leader)
3. Kim Foxx for Cook County State Attorney election campaign (Marketing and Promotion Distribution Manager)
4. Young Kings and Queens of God Youth Ministry. (Youth Minister)
5. Graphic Design and Printing Youth Training program for Boys and Girls Club. (Trainer and Creator)
6. Dunbar Jr Basketball's Athletic Gear Design and Manufacture entrepreneurship program. (Trainer)
7. "100 Blocks 100 Churches" Stop the Violence summer outreach program. (Assistance Coordinator)
8. Englewood's Technology Training Youth Program (guest speaker) Youth Mentor and Sponsor of Multiple Youth Programs. (GRIP for Youth "SLAM Program" (Youth Mentor/ Activity Coach)
9. Non violence activist and advocate for underserved urban community.
10. Supporter and member of Christian faith base organizations.
11. Supporter of local and global crisis.
12. Promoter and sponsor of at-risk youth Events and Outreach programs.
13. In search of more to do....



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**KIM**



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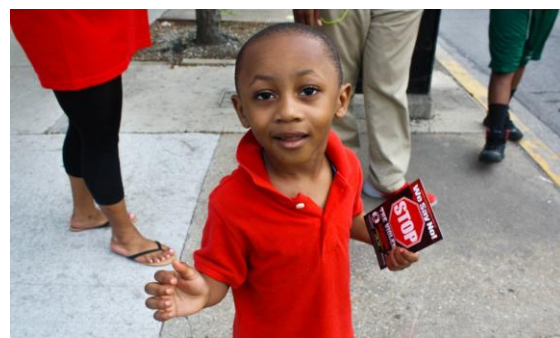




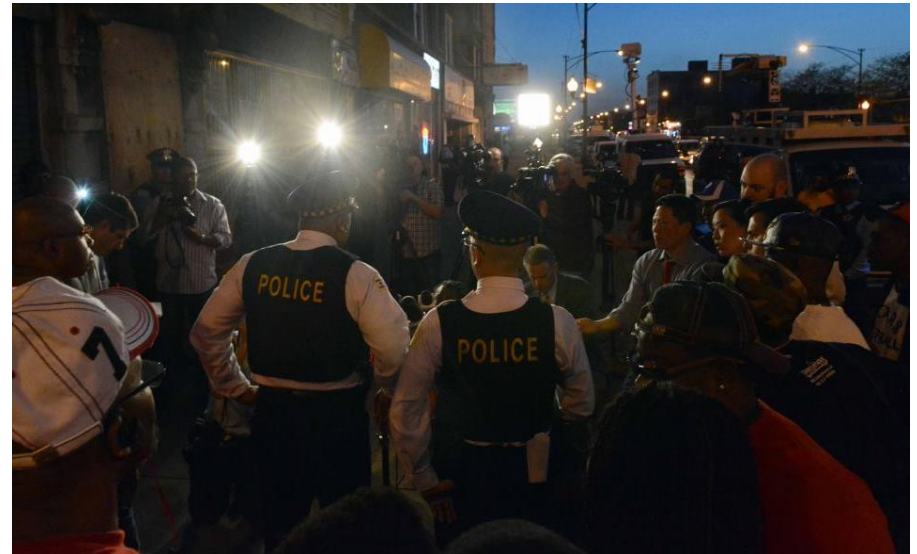
















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## 'ker in oot ige

CHU

man plunged to his while working on an job at a Boca Raton ding to a police report day.

Jason Baltzley, 34, was on the roof installing an air-conditioning unit at 201 Plaza Real North when co-worker Mitchell Leoff, 52, warned him to stay off of the metal sheets that were covering a shaft which led to the ground," the report states. The next hoff told police, Balt-

his girlfriend of five was told Baltzley fell icrete floor below. He

n kissing him goodbye, getting a call that's he's i. "It just doesn't make

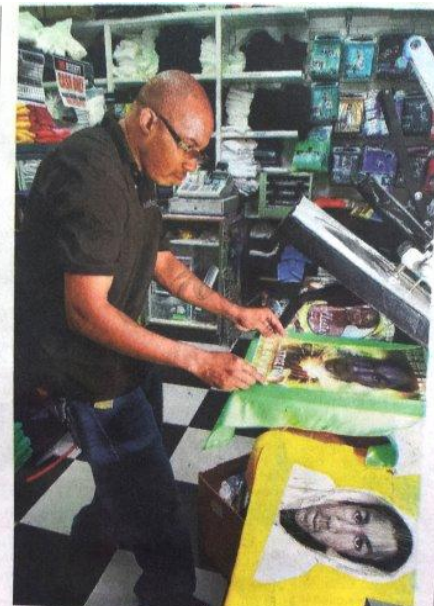
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construction-related with California for t in the nation.

lent, and he fell," said eper at A&D Air Con- sation in Davie, where for 13 years. "There's y"

the U.S. Occupational Administration con- sation is investigating. ounty Medical Exam- waiting the results of rmining a cause of man said,

behind a 13-year-old ous marriage, LaBree



GINA FONTANA/CORRESPONDENT

Designer and store manager Maurice Gunn makes Trayvon Martin memorial T-shirts at the China Man Photo in West Palm Beach.

## These clothes have a cause

BY GEORGIA EAST  
Staff writer

They make their voices heard at rallies, marches, vigils — and with messages on clothing that they say serves as a tangible reminder of a life lost.

Across South Florida, hundreds of people are sporting Trayvon Martin T-shirts, buttons and hoodies to show solidarity with the unarmed Miami teen slain by the head of a crime watch group in Sanford.

"Too many of our black kids are getting killed," said Sharonda Richardson, of Fort Lauderdale, who wore a "Seeking Justice for Trayvon" button at Wednesday's prayer rally at New Mount Olive Baptist Church.

Truvonda Taylor, of Fort Lauderdale, said she was never one to buy T-shirts as a remembrance for loved ones but in the case of Trayvon Martin she had to get one.

com

Please turn to TRAYVON, 28

## Good civil s vanish

Wrongful-death case drops  
off judge's trial calendar

BY PETER FRANCESCHINA  
Staff writer

Following his criminal trial that resulted in a DUI-manslaughter conviction last week, Wellington polo mogul John Goodman was supposed to face a civil jury in a multimillion-dollar wrongful-death suit filed by the parents of the young man he killed in the horrific crash.

For months, that civil trial was specially set to begin Tuesday before Palm Beach Circuit Judge Glenn Kelley. The suit, without any word of explanation in the court file, disappeared from the judge's trial calendar, and Kelley presided over a personal-injury case instead.

Legal experts say that strongly points to a confidential settlement in the case.

Please turn to CIVIL, 28

## Counties g Medicaid t

BY KATHLEEN HAUGHNEY  
Tallahassee Bureau

TALLAHASSEE — Gov. Rick Scott on Thursday signed legislation that will force the state's 67 counties to fork over tens of millions of dollars to the state in disputed Medicaid payments, putting a strain on already overburdened local budgets.

The Legislature earlier this month said that counties owed \$325 million in required Medicaid bills that had not been paid over the past several years. But the counties countered that the state's billing system is riddled with problems and that many counties were being double-billed or billed incorrectly.

Lawmakers' solution was a plan that required counties to pay 85 percent of the bills — \$276 million statewide — over

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