

Notorious B.I.G. Catalog Case May Turn on Fight Over Mom's Will

By Mike Leonard 2026-03-05T16:26:18000-05:00

The Notorious B.I.G.'s widow, R&B Singer Faith Evans, is seeking to pause a court fight over his musical legacy after his children accused a record executive of manipulating the iconic rap star's mother into naming him executor of her estate.

Evans filed the motion in Delaware's Chancery Court, where she and music manager Wayne Barrow have been [battling for control](#) of Notorious B.I.G. LLC since July. Further proceedings in that case should await the outcome of separate litigation led by half-siblings Christopher J. and T'yanna Dream Wallace, who are challenging their grandmother's will in a Pennsylvania court, Wednesday's filing said.

Their [petition](#), filed last month, seeks to remove Barrow as trustee of the Voletta Wallace Revocable Trust over allegations he "used his relationship with decedent during her time of frailty to unduly influence decedent into altering her last will and testament just 15 days before her death" in February 2025.

Jay Freiberg, an attorney for Barrow, said in a statement to Bloomberg Law that the Pennsylvania petition was "nothing more than a delay tactic, as evidenced by the fact that it was filed on the last possible day and with a trial nearing in Delaware."

"Indeed, the subsequent motion to stay confirms this delay strategy," Freiberg said Thursday. "And for good reason, as defendants in Delaware have no meritorious defense."

Christopher Wallace, also known as Biggie Smalls, rocketed to fame in the mid-1990s with hits like "Juicy" and "Big Poppa" before his death in a 1997 drive-by shooting that remains unsolved. The murder—and the killing months earlier of rival Tupac Shakur—marked a major turning point in hip-hop culture that has generated decades of unproven speculation about ties between gangland figures and music industry heavyweights including Suge Knight and Sean "Diddy" Combs.

Evans and Combs, then going by Puff Daddy, collaborated on the Grammy-winning tribute song “I’ll Be Missing You,” which became one of the best-selling singles of all time. Her son with the rapper, known as C.J., played a younger version of his father in the 2009 biopic “Notorious.” T’yanna Wallace has a different mother.

The legal dispute began when Barrow sued Evans about three months after Primary Wave Music acquired a 50% stake in Biggie’s musical catalog and likeness rights for a reported \$100 million. Barrow said he was being wrongly cut out of a managerial role he effectively held before the death of Voletta Wallace, who allegedly negotiated the sale.

Evans [filed a counterclaim](#) in August that said Barrow never had a formal position with the LLC and was breaching its operating agreement by trying to seize control of it. The case is set for a two-day trial [in early May](#) unless the court’s chief judge, Chancellor Kathaleen St. J. McCormick, agrees to pump the brakes.

Evans is represented by Fox Rothschild LLP and Sanders Roberts LLP. Barrow is represented by Wilks Law LLC and Elman Freiberg PLLC. The Wallace siblings are represented by Goudsouzian & Associates.

The case is [Barrow v. Evans](#) , Del. Ch., No. 2025-0760, motion filed 3/4/26 .

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