

MAYORAL COP, DRUG KINGPIN LINKED - CONNECTIONS SURFACE AS OFFICER STEPS ASIDE

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Detroit Police Officer Michael Martin, one of the central figures in Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick's security team controversy, has links to one of the city's most notorious drug dealers.

Martin, whom Kilpatrick has described as an honorable man, was at the Genesee County home of convicted drug kingpin **Dean Parker** when a sheriff's deputy arrived in April 1998.

Martin then was a street cop assigned to Detroit's 2nd (Schaefer) Precinct. **Parker**, who later killed himself, was a fugitive and was not home. He was under investigation for allegedly shipping 500 kilograms of cocaine from Los Angeles to Detroit in 1997-98 in cars with secret compartments.

Parker's house, at 12300 Kipp Road in Atlas Township near Grand Blanc, was under periodic FBI surveillance, according to Genesee County sheriff's records obtained by the Free Press.

On April 7, 1998, a neighbor called police after noticing two men in a pickup truck drive up to the **Parker** home after 9 p.m.

A deputy found Martin and **Parker**'s brother, Donald Ray **Parker**, inside the garage, the records said.

Donald Ray **Parker** told the deputy he knew his younger brother was a wanted man but said he was at the home to prepare it for sale, the records said.

Martin produced a Detroit police ID and badge and said little, except that he "was there to help **Parker**," according to the records.

After verifying the pair's identities, the deputy left.

In an interview late Friday, Martin said Donald Ray **Parker** was upset that night in 1998 because he had discovered his brother missing from the house. He called for help, Martin said.

"He's my best friend," Martin said. "He feared the worst had happened. I went to assist a friend."

Martin said he was not friends with **Dean Parker**.

Three months after the incident at **Dean Parker**'s home, Martin was involved in a dustup outside the River Rock Cafe in downtown Detroit. After a minor traffic accident, Martin, allegedly drunk, fired up to 11 shots from a .40-caliber Glock handgun toward a group of men near the driver of the other car, the records said.

Witnesses remembered Martin yelling, "I'm going to kill your boy," court records show. A bullet grazed one man's wrist.

Martin said he was acting in self-defense after someone with the driver of the other car attacked his passenger, whom witnesses said was about to swing a liquor bottle as a weapon.

The passenger, court records said, was Donald Ray **Parker** .

Martin was charged with assault with intent to murder and felonious use of a firearm, but was convicted of a lesser misdemeanor gun charge.

He became one of Kilpatrick's top security aides when the mayor took office in January 2002. Martin resigned from the team Thursday over questions about his service record. He has asked to be reassigned.

Martin and fellow security team member Officer Loranzo (Greg) Jones are facing allegations that they covered up their auto accidents and falsified overtime slips. Investigators also are looking into a rumored wild party at the mayoral residence last year.

After Martin asked for a transfer, Kilpatrick called him a valued member of the security crew who "served the city well in that role."

Martin has known the **Parker** family for years, according to a woman who said she was the mother of the **Parkers** but declined to give her name Friday. She said her son Donald was unavailable for comment.

Martin has never been charged in connection with the **Parkers** .

Dean Parker , who was convicted on federal drug charges in 1989, was indicted on additional drug charges in June 2000. After three years on the lam, **Parker** wound up in Missouri in September 2001. With police closing in, he shot himself in the head after taking a teenage girl hostage.

Before he committed suicide, **Parker** had the girl -- who was not harmed -- sitting in the bathroom, reading the Bible to him.

Resulting from the same drug investigation, Donald Ray **Parker** was charged in May 2001 with aiding and abetting.

In a court affidavit, Internal Revenue Service Special Agent Kevin Boudreau wrote that Donald **Parker** admitted transporting more than \$300,000 in drug money from Detroit to Columbia, S.C., at the request of his brother.

Donald **Parker** said he traveled with a Detroit police officer, who is not named in the affidavit.

The complaint against Donald **Parker** was dismissed without explanation in May 2001. But on Feb. 27 of this year, he was charged with making false statements to the grand jury.

Federal agents said Donald **Parker** lied when he denied that **Dean Parker** left him about \$100,000 before fleeing in 1998.

Donald **Parker** has pleaded guilty and is awaiting sentencing. He could get 10 months in jail.

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