

## ATTORNEY FOR YOUNG BOYS DENIES INCOME TAX CHARGES

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Detroit attorney W. **Otis Culpepper** pleaded not guilty Friday to federal charges of evading income taxes for five years and conspiring with the founder of Young Boys Inc. to defraud the government on **Culpepper** 's taxes.

Arraigned before U.S. Magistrate Marcia Cooke, **Culpepper** was released on a \$10,000 personal bond.

He was one of 26 people indicted this week by a federal grand jury on various racketeering and tax charges that officials say are linked to the Young Boys drug ring. Eight of those people were arraigned this week, said Jeff Foran, assistant U.S. attorney.

Young Boys founder Milton (Butch) Jones, who is named in the indictment, is charged with directing the drug ring's operations in Detroit from the Federal Correctional Institution in Bastrop, Tex., where he is serving a 12-year sentence stemming from a 1982 charge of running a criminal enterprise.

Young Boys was a city-wide ring that used adolescents to sell drugs. In 1982, federal indictments against 40 members resulted in 32 convictions or guilty pleas.

As part of the racketeering charge, Jones is charged with killing five people. His wife, Portia Denise Jones, who was arraigned Friday and held without bond, is charged with participating in three killings.

**Culpepper** 's attorney, Hugh Davis, said the charges against his client are "old matters relating to periods of time in the past that were known to the government for a long time."

In the past, **Culpepper** represented Young Boys defendants, including Butch Jones. According to the indictment, Jones compensated **Culpepper** for legal services with cash, narcotics and by purchasing or leasing vehicles and property for the attorney and placing the purchases in the names of others.

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