



Missouri teacher charged with hiring hitman to kill student, 10, who he allegedly molested: report

A Missouri teacher is accused of hiring a hitman to kill a 10-year-old boy he allegedly molested. Deonte Taylor, 36, and his boyfriend Michael Johnson, 66, pleaded not guilty to multiple charges in a St. Louis court on Wednesday, [KSDK reported](#).

Taylor was busted in November after his DNA was found to match samples found on his former student.

[**WYOMING MAN RECALLS EX-WIFE'S ATTEMPT TO HIRE A HITMAN IN NEW DOC: 'I DON'T THINK SHE HAS REMORSE'**](#)

He's facing three charges of first-degree statutory sodomy related to the accusation that he took the then-7-year-old boy from class at an elementary school where he worked as a teacher's assistant in 2015, the [St. Louis Post-Dispatch reported](#).

Court papers said he took the boy to another room, where the boy performed oral sex on him, KSDK reported.

The boy reported the alleged attack right away, but the investigation lingered after the detective on the case left the department, and charges were not immediately filed.

In the meantime, Taylor got his teaching certificate, and was hired as a teacher by a different school district. He passed a series of background checks despite the open case in his prior district, and was working at a different elementary school when he was arrested, the station reported. That district alerted families about the accusations at Taylor's former school after he was nabbed.

[**BOYFRIEND SLASHED WITH SWORD AFTER WOMAN CATCHES HIM MOLESTING HER DAUGHTER, 5: POLICE**](#)

Investigators said in February, Taylor met a fellow inmate and arranged to have him kill the boy — and his mother — when that inmate was released. The man instead became a confidential informant for the police, [the outlet reported](#).

Meanwhile, Taylor then talked to Johnson, whom he lived with before he was busted, and allegedly convinced Johnson to pay for the hit, the station reported. Court papers say Johnson paid the man.

[**GET THE FOX NEWS APP**](#)

Taylor and Johnson were charged with two counts of conspiracy to commit murder and two counts of attempting to tamper with a victim in a felony prosecution.

<https://www.foxnews.com/us/missouri-teacher-charged-with-hiring-hitman-to-kill-student-10-who-he-allegedly-molested-report>

<https://kmox.radio.com/.../hazelwood-teacher-allegedly-hired-inmate-kill-student-mot...>

April 22, 2019

OXY GEN

Teacher Allegedly Hired Hitman To Kill Elementary Student He's Accused Of Molesting

A Missouri teacher is accused of trying to hire a hitman to kill a 10-year-old boy whom he allegedly molested at the age of 7. The teacher's boyfriend allegedly helped in the murder plot.

Deonte Taylor, 36, and his boyfriend Michael Johnson, 66, both pleaded not guilty to multiple charges stemming from the bizarre incident in a St. Louis court on Wednesday, [KSDK in St. Louis reports](#). Taylor has been charged with conspiracy to commit murder and attempting to tamper with a victim in a felony prosecution, according to court documents obtained by **Oxygen.com**. Johnson has also been charged with conspiracy to commit murder. In 2015, Taylor was working as a teacher's aide at Lusher Elementary when he allegedly forced a 7-year-old student into oral sex, according to documents obtained by **Oxygen.com**. He was HIV-positive at the time. Even though the victim reported the alleged incident right away, charges were not immediately filed and Taylor went on to obtain his teaching certification and work in a different school district as a teacher. Taylor was finally arrested in November 2018 after his DNA matched samples found on his former student's underwear and body. Taylor was hit with a felony sodomy charge and an additional charge for exposing the boy to HIV. After his November arrest, Taylor and his boyfriend allegedly then tried to have the boy and his family killed. In February, Taylor allegedly chatted with another inmate about the plans to kill the boy and Johnson allegedly agreed to pay him. The alleged hitman then turned into an informant for the police. It's not clear if the couple has a lawyer who can speak on their behalf at this time.

TEACHER CHARGED WITH HIRING HITMAN TO KILL 10-YEAR-OLD STUDENT HE ALLEGEDLY MOLESTED

St. Louis teacher was arrested last November, charged with molesting a 7-year-old student three years earlier. Last week, while in jail awaiting trial, Taylor and his partner were charged with trying to hire a hitman to kill his former student and his family. When Deonte Taylor, 36, was a teacher's assistant at Lusher Elementary in 2015, he allegedly removed a 7-year-old male student from class and took him to another room where he engaged the boy in oral sex, according to [KSDK](#). Although the boy, who has not been named, and his family reported the alleged incident to police at the time, Taylor was not charged until years later. In November 2018, police arrested Taylor after a DNA test revealed that his sample matched the DNA found on his alleged victim at the time of the alleged incident. Taylor faces three charges of first-degree statutory sodomy. Between 2015 and 2018, Taylor earned his teaching certificate and became a fifth-grade teacher at Walnut Grove Elementary school in the Ferguson-Florissant School District. Since charges had never been filed against him, he was able to slip through the vetting process. "Mr. Taylor went through the same process that all of our teaching candidates go through. Everyone goes through a criminal background check, sexual abuse registry background check and there was nothing that showed up on that," Ferguson-Florissant School District spokesperson Kevin Hampton told KSDK. Taylor was in jail awaiting trial in February when he allegedly attempted to arrange for someone to kill the now 10-year-old victim and his family in an apparent bid to silence them. Taylor then convinced his boyfriend, Michael Johnson, 66, to pay the man to carry out the killings, which he did, according to the [charging document](#). But the intended hitman became a police confidant soon after, exposing the plan. In addition to the charges related to the 2015 incident, Taylor also faces two counts of conspiracy to commit murder and two counts of attempting to tamper with a victim in a felony prosecution. Johnson faces the same four charges. Taylor and Johnson appeared in a St. Louis court on Wednesday, where they both pleaded not guilty to the charges. Both men are currently being held without bond. Cindy Malott, director of advocacy services at Crisis Aid International in St. Louis, launched a [GoFundMe](#) page to help Taylor's alleged victim and his family cover the expenses they have accumulated over the past three years. "I am seeking to raise funds for the victim, his mother, and his family who have struggled financially and emotionally since the original incident in 2015." the page's description read. Over the past nine days, 47 people have donated \$1,369 toward helping the boy and his family. The fundraiser's goal is \$15,000.

https://www.google.com/search?q=newsweek+logo&rlz=1C1PRFI_enUS835US836&tbm=isch&source=iu&ictx=1&fir=KQNCe3s3g9mSIM%253A%252CBgHn0ZbQrOTa5M%252C_&vet=1&usg=AI4_kQsowlPTrPYI90YrnH068vbKfCnXA&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwi53Zy_p-bhAhUDPa0KHaUnDcMQ9QEwAHoECAcQBA&safe=active&ssui=on#imgsrc=KQNCe3s3g9mSIM:



9th St. Louis Teen Talent Competition Finals Winners Announced

ST. LOUIS - April 18, 2019 - [PRLog](#) -- On Saturday, April 13th, fifteen metro area high school acts brought the crowd to their feet when they performed on stage at The Fabulous Fox Theatre in the St. Louis Teen Talent Competition Finals. Students competed for more than \$40,000 in college scholarships, cash awards and special prizes. A full list of prizes and winners along with official event information can be found on the Fox Performing Arts Charitable Foundation's (FPACF) website. The distinguished panel of judges, performing arts professionals with careers spanning film, TV and Broadway, had the difficult job of judging the acts on interpretation, stage presence, technical ability, and originality. 1st place was awarded to 17-year-old singer and guitarist Joanna Serenko from Kirkwood High School who performed "Valerie." Joanna received an \$8,000 college scholarship, which is underwritten by Ameren Corporation Charitable Trust. 2nd place and a \$6,000 college scholarship went to Samanvita Kasthuri, a 16-year-old from Parkway South High School, for her original Bharatnatyam dance performance "Equal." K.O. Duo, 18-year-old seniors Oliver Layher (St. John Vianney) and Krylan Walton (Metro Academic & Classical High School) took the \$4,000 scholarship for 3rd place for their hand-to-hand partner acrobatic performance. The \$1,000 cash Audience Choice Award went to modern/contemporary dancers and seniors Arielle Adams, DessaRae Lampkins, Brooke Reese, and De'Jai Walker from Hazelwood Central High School. (Photos available upon request.) Numerous additional special awards and prizes went to finalists and semi-finalists. A list of all prize winners can be found at the FPACF website (<https://foxpacf.org/>). The group of 24 finalists will also have the opportunity to perform at a variety of events around the metro area. 2019 public appearances scheduled to date include the The Muny, National Dance Week, Taste of Maplewood, Gateway Grizzlies, Shakespeare Festival, and the Rising Stars Showcase. Now in its 9th year, the professionally produced show was written and directed by Tony Parise (Broadway actor, dancer, director, choreographer and St. Louis native), with musical direction by Stephen Neale (composer, conductor, pianist), and choreographed by Yvonne Meyer Hare (Professional Dance Center). The 2018 first place winner, Nicaya Wiley, returned to perform a contemporary dance to "Feeling Good" with a male ensemble from COCA. The Finals were recorded by The Nine Network for a special St. Louis Teen Talent Competition program to be aired on Tuesday, May 21, 2019 at 7 pm (with rebroadcasts on May 24 at 2 am and May 26 at 11 am). This special presentation is supported by Mary Strauss and Webster University which will provide the opportunity for a broader audience to experience the joy and magic that these aspiring artists bring to the Fox stage. The 10th Annual St. Louis Teen Talent Competition at The Fabulous Fox will be held on Saturday, April 4, 2020.