

**10 MINUTES ON THE PHONE WITH ERYKAH BADU**



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Lionell Dotson embraces the ashes of his sisters Katricia and Zanetta Dotson at the Ivy Hill Crematory after the medical examiner released the remains to him on Wednesday. — KIMBERLY PAINTER/WHYY

## City turns over MOVE remains to brother; wait was wrong and painful, lawyers say

Stephen Williams  
TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER

Lawyers for the North Carolina man who received his sisters' remains from the city more than three decades after they were killed in the police bombing of the MOVE home in West Philadelphia said the wait was wrong and painful.

The lawyers said they are not ruling out a lawsuit.

Nevertheless, Lionell Dotson, 45, who came to Philadelphia with his family, said, "I am just astounded, mixed emotions. It's so surreal right now it's bittersweet. All this finally came together after 37 years of mental anguish and my Mom wasn't here to be a part of this somber event. I have my sister's remains in my possession."

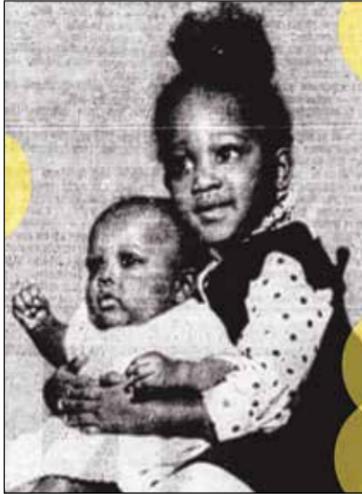
Dotson's mother Consuewella Dotson, who was also known as Consuewella Africa, died in June 2021.

In 1985, a shootout between MOVE, a back-to-nature group and city police resulted in police dropping a bomb from a helicopter on home on Osage Ave., which killed 11 people, five of which were children, including Dotson's sisters, Katricia, who was 14 at the time of her death, and Zanetta, who was 12. A resulting fire was allowed to burn and destroyed 61 homes and cost the city \$50 million.

Meanwhile, the remains of Dotson's sisters were transferred to Ivy Hill Cemetery where they were cremated at Dotson's request and turned over to him.

Bakari Sellers, a South Carolina-based attorney for Dotson, said the city turning over the remains was a good start and first step towards closure for his client.

MOVE » 4A



Zanetta Dotson, left and her sister, Katricia Dotson in a 1973 photo. — FAMILY PHOTO

## U.S. declares emergency over monkeypox

More resources will be used for wave of cases

Zeke Miller  
Mike Stobbe  
Michael Balsamo

WASHINGTON — The federal government declared a public health emergency Thursday to bolster the response to the monkeypox outbreak that has infected more than 6,600 Americans.

The announcement will free up money and other resources to fight the virus, which may cause fever, body aches, chills, fatigue and pimple-like bumps on many parts of the body.

"We are prepared to take our response to the next level in addressing this virus, and we urge every American to take monkeypox seriously," said Xavier Becerra, head of the Department of Health and Human Services.

The declaration by HHS comes as the Biden administration has faced criticism over monkeypox vaccine availability. Clinics in major cities such as New York and San Francisco say they haven't received enough of



A patient receives a monkeypox vaccination at a pop-up vaccination site at the West Hollywood Library Community Meeting Room on Wednesday in West Hollywood, Calif. — AP PHOTO/RICHARD VOGEL

the two-shot vaccine to meet demand, and some have had to stop offering the second dose to ensure supply of first doses.

The White House said it has made more than 1.1 million doses available and has helped to boost domestic diagnostic capacity to 80,000 tests per week.

The monkeypox virus spreads

through prolonged skin-to-skin contact, including hugging, cuddling and kissing, as well as sharing bedding, towels and clothing. The people who have gotten sick so far have been primarily men who have sex with men. But health officials emphasize that the virus can infect anyone.

MONKEYPOX » 4A

## Griner's 9-year sentence stirs outrage, cries of 'Free BG'

Cindy Boren

WASHINGTON — The nine-year sentence given to WNBA star Brittney Griner on Thursday was not a shock to legal observers who had closely followed the case and the Russian criminal justice system, but it still unnerved many, with Griner's friends and colleagues reacting with shock and outrage.

Griner made a tearful plea just before a Russian court found her guilty on Thursday of trying to bring

illegal drugs into the country, saying she "made an honest mistake and I hope that in your ruling, that it doesn't end my life here." But it made no difference as the judge handed down a harsh but basically preordained nine-year sentence and fined the 31-year-old star basketball player 1 million rubles (around \$16,300). She had pleaded guilty last month to carrying vape cartridges with cannabis oil into the country

GRINER » 5A



Brittney Griner awaits the verdict in a cage in the courtroom in Khimki just outside Moscow on Thursday. — EVGENIA NOVOZHENINA/POOL PHOTO VIA AP

## Feds charge 4 cops in case of Breonna Taylor

Louisville officers are accused of violating her civil rights

Dylan Lovan

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — The federal government filed civil rights charges Thursday against four Louisville police officers over the death of Breonna Taylor, a Black woman whose fatal shooting helped fuel the racial justice protests that rocked the nation in 2020.

The charges are another effort to hold law enforcement accountable for the

killing of the 26-year-old medical worker after one of the officers was acquitted of state charges earlier this year.

"Breonna Taylor should be alive today," Attorney General Merrick Garland said in announcing the charges, which include unlawful conspiracy, use of force and obstruction of justice.

The charges named former officers Joshua

TAYLOR » 5A



Assistant Attorney General Kristen Clarke, right, and Attorney General Merrick Garland announce the charges Thursday. — AP PHOTO/MANUEL BALCE CENETA

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