

BROOKLYN SPORTS FINAL

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## Honor student cleared

### Plans to sue for 10M after being jailed

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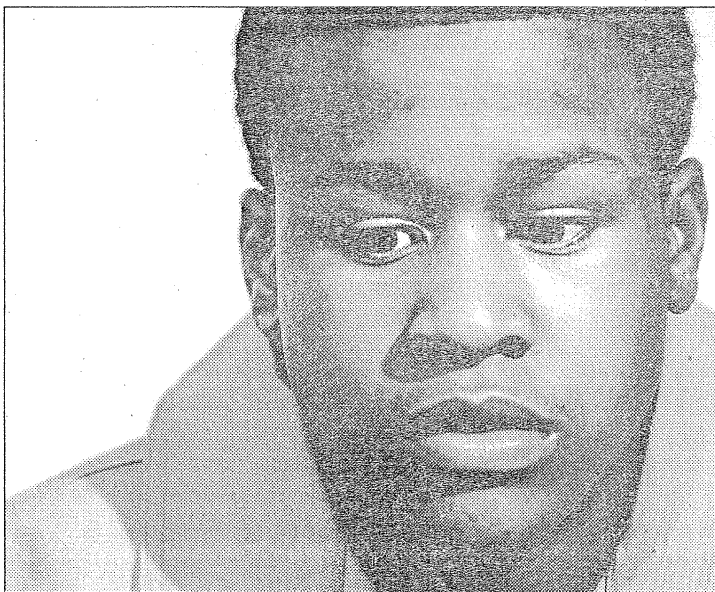
A 15-YEAR-OLD honor student who was held in juvenile detention for three months until he was acquitted of shooting at cops plans to sue the city for \$10 million, his lawyers said yesterday.

"I should have been with my family," said Darryl Forde, a soft-spoken sophomore at Clara Barton High School in Brooklyn. "I should have been in school."

The boy's lawyers say cops and prosecutors withheld evidence that would have cleared him, and also say a cop kicked the Brooklyn teen in his head during a Nov. 17 arrest.

Darryl was locked up for Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's and missed nearly half the school year after his arrest at Bushwick Ave. and Moore St. in Bushwick.

Cops were taking a drug suspect into custody that November night when three or four shots rang out. Darryl was among a group of onlookers who ran into a nearby building during the



RON ANTONELLI DAILY NEWS

**Darryl Forde spent three months in juvenile detention after being accused of shooting at cops in Brooklyn.**

commotion, according to court records.

At least two cops insisted he was the shooter, and an officer grabbed him. Darryl said he was kicked in the head while being held to the ground by the cops.

The teen, who has no criminal record, was charged with attempted murder and the case was eventually transferred to Family Court.

Last week, Family Court Judge Maureen McLeod dismissed all the charges.

McLeod noted that police failed to administer a gunshot residue test, a common law enforcement practice to see if a suspect had fired a gun. She called the lapse "disturbing."

"There is no motive for this honor student who has never

been in trouble before to suddenly start shooting at the police," she concluded in a report released Monday.

An internal police report that defense attorneys say was withheld during the trial states a Hispanic man in his late teens or early 20s interfered with the drug arrest.

He was pepper-sprayed by cops and later threatened, "Just wait. Just wait. I'm going to get my gun," according to a copy of the police report released yesterday by Darryl's attorney Andrew Stoll.

Stoll said he believes that man was likely the shooter. No arrests have been made.

"Lying cops buried the evidence," Stoll charged.

An NYPD spokesman did not respond to requests for comment.

Darryl's attorneys said they expect to file a notice of claim, outlining their intent to sue the city.

Darryl's mother, Yvonne Forde, 55, said she worried constantly about her son's safety when he was being held without bail at the Crossroads Detention Center in East New York.

"I was fearful for his life," she said.

But even after the ordeal, Darryl said he isn't angry.

"I'm just happy to be out," he said. "I don't blame all police. I know they're still there to protect me." rmoore@nydailynews.com