

## Case study

# Death Row Records

## Preserving hip-hop heritage: Iron Mountain's role in safeguarding Death Row Records' legacy

Death Row Records is an iconic American record label that was founded in 1991. Synonymous with all things hip hop, the label became a sensation by releasing multi-platinum albums by its superstars - including Dr. Dre, Snoop Dogg and 2Pac - and catapulting rap into mainstream music.

Death Row Records and Nulane Entertainment enlisted Iron Mountain Media & Archive Services to help manage the immense wealth of rap content accumulated from the last three decades for future licensing in music and film. After a number of acquisitions, the label has come full circle, now owned by one of its first artists, Snoop Dogg (real name Calvin Broadis, Jr.). Day-to-day supervision and direction is led by Michael "Harry-O" Harris, original label founder and current chief operating officer. The revitalized label helps new artists produce music as well as uses content that has never before been released to the public for upcoming re-releases, docu-series and albums.

Iron Mountain Media & Archive Services started by helping organize their music archive and has since provided content extraction from hard drives to our Smart Vault digital media preservation platform, making the files safe and accessible.

Iron Mountain Media & Archive Services digitized CDs of original, untitled and unreleased music from Death Row, as well as 107 assets from hip hop record producer Battlecat. For the label's upcoming scripted, mini-series called, "The Chronic," Iron Mountain Media & Archive Services also digitized interviews from their collection to be used.

Death Row Records produced some of the most unforgettable music of the 1990s and Iron Mountain Media & Archive Services is proud to preserve and make accessible its legacy for future audiences.

"Death Row Records has immense untapped potential with unforgettable audio and visual recordings that we are excited to bring to light for the public. Iron Mountain Media & Archive Services gets what we are trying to do and we are pleased with their expertise."

— Michael Harris  
Original label founder and current Chief Operating Officer



## Industry

- Record label

## Challenge

Assess, collect, and digitize all records including audio, video, and hard drive files from Death Row Records archive and founders' archive

## Solution

Iron Mountain Media & Archive Services digitized and converted audio and video recordings, ingested digital files into Smart Vault, and stored physical assets

## Value

- Preserved Death Row Records archival legacy
- Enhanced the capability to search content with Smart Vault



## [ironmountain.com/entertainment](https://www.ironmountain.com/entertainment)

### About Iron Mountain Media & Archive Services

Iron Mountain Media and Archive Services, founded in 1988 is the media and entertainment division of Iron Mountain Incorporated® and the go-to physical and digital media archiving service for the media and entertainment industries. They partner with clients ranging from the broadcast, film, music and sports sectors to brand archives and individual artists' collections and estates, to protect and activate media archives to preserve our collective cultural heritage. A global leader in media preservation, restoration and archive management, they offer industry-leading archive, storage, chain-of-custody processes and physical and digital content preservation solutions to ensure the complete protection of some of the world's most treasured and iconic assets. Visit <https://www.ironmountain.com/industries/entertainment> for more information.

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