

## Mikey's story

### 20 years old

Mikey Rainsford was killed by a gang on Merseyside in 2020 in a revenge shooting he had nothing to do with. It was a case of mistaken identity. Mikey was 20 years old and died in his father's arms.

James and Michael Foy, career criminals with links to a local gang had been intent on revenge after someone threw bricks through their mother's window.

It was later found that Merseyside Police missed an opportunity to arrest James Foy months before Mikey's murder when his DNA was found on a seized firearm.

The Independent Office for Police Conduct (IOPC) later reviewed the force's renewed investigations into this and found no reason provided that justifies why the arrest [of James Foy] could not and should not have been made prior to the murder.

In 2021, the brothers were found guilty of Mikey's murder. James Foy was sentenced to life in prison with a minimum term of 28 years. He was given an additional five years to run concurrently for the other firearms offence. His brother Michael was sentenced to at least 30 years in prison.



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The window was smashed with this roar of two bullets.

We just held on to each other.

He was still with us for a moment, and in a second he just let go.

Mikey's killer should have already been behind bars at the time of the fatal shooting had police acted on DNA evidence found on the firearm that was recovered five months before Mikey was shot.