

The Fast and the Furious

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“Fast and Furious” redirects here. For other uses, see [Fast and Furious \(disambiguation\)](#) and [The Fast and the Furious \(disambiguation\)](#).

The Fast and the Furious (or simply ***Fast & Furious***) is an American [media franchise](#) including a series of [action films](#) created by [Neal H. Moritz](#), which center on [illegal street racing](#) and [heists](#), and various other media portraying the characters and situations from the films. Distributed by [Universal Pictures](#), the series was established with the [2001 film](#) titled *The Fast and the Furious*; it has since been followed by five [sequels](#), two [short films](#) that tie into the series, and a related video game series. Having earned \$2.3 billion as of October 22, 2013 at the worldwide box office, it has become Universal Studios' biggest franchise of all time.^{[1][2]}

Films

The Fast and the Furious (2001)

Main article: [The Fast and the Furious \(2001 film\)](#)

The film is loosely based on a magazine article, titled "Racer X", about street clubs that race Japanese cars late at night. Elite street racer and ex-convict [Dominic Toretto](#) ([Vin Diesel](#)) and his crew: Jesse ([Chad Lindberg](#)), Leon ([Johnny Strong](#)), Vince ([Matt Schulze](#)) and Dominic's girlfriend Letty Ortiz ([Michelle Rodriguez](#)), are under suspicion of stealing expensive electronic equipment. Brian O'Connor ([Paul Walker](#)) is an undercover police officer who attempts to find out who exactly is stealing the equipment. He worked for FBI agent Bilkins ([Thom Barry](#)) and LAPD officer Tanner ([Ted Levine](#)).

Falling for Dominic's younger sister, Mia Toretto ([Jordana Brewster](#)), Brian later confesses to her his status as an undercover

cop and convinces her to come with him to save her brother and his friends from the truck drivers, who have now armed themselves to combat the robberies. He tracks Dominic's location by triangulating his cell phone signal and they arrive at the hijacking in-progress to find Letty, badly injured at the car accident, and Vince critically wounded, having lacerated his arm and been shot by the truck driver. Brian and Mia work together with Dominic, Leon and Letty to rescue Vince. Brian then makes the difficult decision to blow his cover to the crew by phoning in for a medivac. The revelation enrages Dominic, but he contains himself and flees with Leon, Letty and Mia as the medivac arrives for Vince.

Brian follows Dominic to his house and holds him at gunpoint to prevent him from fleeing. Jesse arrives shortly afterwards, apologizing for his actions at Race Wars and pleading for Dominic's help with Johnny Tran ([Rick Yune](#)). Moments later, Tran and his cousin Lance Nguyen ([Reggie Lee](#)) perform a drive-by shooting, killing Jesse. Brian and Dominic chase them, with Dominic driving his late father's modified 1970 Dodge Charger. Dominic forces Lance's motorcycle off the road, severely injuring him, while Brian shoots and kills Tran. Afterwards, Brian and Dominic engage in an impromptu street race, narrowly avoiding a passing train. Dominic collides with a semi-truck and rolls his car twice, injuring himself, and rendering the Charger un-drivable. Instead of arresting him, Brian hands over the keys to his Supra and lets Dominic escape, using the line "I owe you a ten second car". After the credits, Dominic is seen driving through Baja California, Mexico in a 1970 Chevrolet Chevelle SS.

2 Fast 2 Furious (2003)

Main article: [2 Fast 2 Furious](#)

Watched by undercover Customs Agent Monica Fuentes ([Eva Mendes](#)), Brian is caught by US Customs agents and is given a deal by agents Bilkins and Markham ([James Remar](#)) to go undercover and try to bring down drug lord Carter Verone ([Cole Hauser](#)) in exchange for the erasure of his criminal record. Brian agrees but only if he is given permission to choose his partner, refusing to partner with the agent assigned to watch him. Brian heads home to Barstow, California, where he recruits Roman Pearce ([Tyrese Gibson](#)), a childhood friend of Brian who had served jail time and is under house arrest, to help him. Pearce agrees, but only for the same deal Brian was offered, and with the help of Monica, Brian and Roman work together to take down Verone. After acquiring confiscated vehicles and being hired by Verone as his drivers, the duo return to a Customs/FBI hideout, where Roman confronts Markham over the latter's interference with the mission. After the situation is cooled down, Brian tells Bilkins and Markham that Verone plans to smuggle the money into his private jet and fly off, but also suspects something wrong with Monica's role in the mission.

Sometime later, Brian and Rome race two other would-be Verone drivers for their cars and begin to devise a personal back up plan if the operation goes awry. Rome confronts Brian about his attraction to Monica and the constant threat of Verone's men. On the day of the mission, Brian and Roman begin transporting duffel bags of Verone's money, with Enrique ([Mo Gallini](#)) and Roberto (Roberto Sanchez) riding along. Before the 15-minute window is set, the detective in charge, Whitworth ([Mark Boone, Jr.](#)), decides

to call in the police to move in for the arrest, resulting in a high-speed chase across the city. The duo lead the police to a warehouse, where a scramble by dozens of street racers disorient the police. Following the scramble, police manage to pull over the Evo and the Eclipse, only to find out that they were driven by two members of Brian's new crew, Tej Parker ([Ludacris](#)) and Suki ([Devon Aoki](#)), respectively.

As Brian approaches the destination point, Enrique tells him to make a detour away from the airfield. Meanwhile, Roman gets rid of Roberto by using an improvised ejector seat powered by nitrous oxide. At the airfield, Customs Agents have Verone's plane and convoy surrounded, only to discover they are duped into a decoy maneuver while Verone is at a boat yard several miles away. As he knew Monica was an undercover agent, he gave her the wrong information on the destination point and plans to use her as leverage. When Brian arrives at the intended drop-off point, Enrique prepares to kill him when Roman suddenly appears and the both of them dispatch of Enrique. Verone makes his escape aboard his private yacht, but Brian and Roman use the Camaro and drive off a ramp at high-speed, crashing on top of the yacht. The duo manage to apprehend Verone and save Monica. With their crimes pardoned, Brian and Roman ponder on what to do next other than to settle in Miami when Brian mentions starting a garage. Roman asks how they would afford that and Brian reveals that he took some of the money, as Roman also reveals that his pockets aren't empty, having taken money for himself.

The Fast and the Furious: Tokyo Drift (2006)

After totaling his car in an illegal street race, Sean Boswell ([Lucas](#)

Black) is sent to live with his father, who is stationed as a **U.S. Navy** officer in Tokyo, Japan, to avoid **juvie** or even jail. While in school, he befriends Twinkie (**Bow Wow**), a “military brat” who introduces him to the world of drift racing in Japan. Though forbidden to drive, he decides to race against Takashi (**Brian Tee**), the “Drift King” who has ties to the **yakuza**. He borrows a Nissan Silvia from Han Seoul-Oh (**Sung Kang**), now a business partner to Takashi, and loses, totaling the car because of his lack of knowledge of drifting – racing that involves dangerous hairpin turns. To repay his debt for the car he destroyed, Sean must work for Han. Later on, Han becomes friends with Sean and teaches the young racer how to drift. Takashi’s uncle Kamata (**Sonny Chiba**), a yakuza head, admonishes Takashi for allowing Han to steal from him. Takashi confronts Han, Sean and Neela (**Nathalie Kelley**), whereupon they flee. During the chase, Han is killed in an accident in his Veilside Mazda RX-7 and Takashi, Sean and his father become involved in an armed standoff which is resolved by Neela agreeing to leave with Takashi. Twinkie provides his saved money to Sean to make up for Han’s stolen money which Sean returns to Kamata. Sean proposes a race against Takashi to determine who must leave Tokyo. Sean and Han’s friends then build a Ford Mustang ‘67, with a Nissan Skyline inline 6 engine, and others spare parts and Sean wins the race. Later, Sean is challenged by an unnamed driver: Dominic Toretto.

Fast & Furious (2009)

Main article: [Fast & Furious \(2009 film\)](#)

Dominic and his new crew (Letty, Han, Leo, Santos and Cara) are hijacking fuel tankers in the Dominican Republic. Dominic begins to suspect the trail is too hot and leaves Letty behind in order to

protect her from harm. Several weeks later, in [Panama City](#), Dominic gets a call from Mia, who tells him that Letty has been murdered by Fenix Calderon ([Laz Alonso](#)), after getting into a near fatal car accident. Dominic heads back to [Los Angeles](#) to examine Letty's crash and finds traces of [nitro-methane](#). He then goes to the only car mechanic that uses nitro-methane and coerces him into giving him the name David Park ([Ron Yuan](#)), the man who ordered the fuel.

Meanwhile, [F.B.I.](#) agent Brian O'Conner ([Paul Walker](#)) is trying to track down a drug dealer named Arturo Braga ([John Ortiz](#)). His search leads him to David Park. Dominic arrives at Park's apartment first and hangs him out of the window by his ankles before letting go. Brian, who was also on his way to Park's place, saves Park who now becomes the FBI's new informant. Park gets Brian into a [street race](#) through Los Angeles. Brian selects a [modified Nissan Skyline GT-R R34](#) from the Impound Lot. Dominic also shows up to race in his modified [1970 Chevrolet Chevelle](#). Gisele Yashar ([Gal Gadot](#)), the liaison for Braga, reveals that the winner will become the last driver on a team that traffics [heroin](#) between the [United States-Mexico border](#). Dominic wins by bumping Brian's car, making him lose control. Brian uses his power as an FBI agent to arrest another driver, Dwight Mueller ([Greg Cipes](#)), and takes his place on the team.

The following day, the team meets one of the Braga's men. They drive across the border using underground tunnels to avoid detection. Brian had prior knowledge that, after the heroin was delivered, Braga ordered the drivers to be killed. However it was revealed to Dominic from Fenix that he killed Letty and after a

tense stand-off, Dominic detonates his car with nitrous to distract Braga's men and Brian hijacks a [Hummer](#) with US\$ 60 million worth of heroin. Both Dominic and Brian drive back to Los Angeles and hide the heroin in a police impound lot where Brian picks up a modified [Subaru Impreza WRX STI](#). Later on, Dominic finds out Brian was the last person to contact Letty, which results in him being attacked by Dominic until he learns Letty was working undercover for Brian, tracking down Braga in exchange for clearing Dominic's name. Brian tells his superiors that in exchange for Dominic's pardon, he will lure Braga into a trap, forcing him to personally show up to exchange money for the heroin. At the drop site, however, Ramon Campos ([Robert Miano](#)), the man who claims to be "Braga", is revealed as a decoy, and "Campos", the real Braga, escapes and flees to Mexico.

Brian and Dominic travel to Mexico on their own to catch Braga. They find him at a church and apprehend him. As Braga's henchmen come down to rescue their leader, Brian and Dominic drive through the underground tunnels back to the United States. When some of Braga's men are killed, Brian crashes his car and is injured after being [T-boned](#) by Fenix at the end of the tunnel. Before Fenix can kill Brian, Dominic, who survived the explosion and exchanged his [1970 Dodge Charger](#) with a [1973 Chevrolet Camaro](#), drives into and kills Fenix. As police and helicopters start streaming to the crash site on the USA side, Brian tells Dominic to leave, but Dominic refuses, saying he's tired of running. Despite Brian's request for [clemency](#), the judge sentences Dominic to [25 years to life](#). Dominic boards a prison bus that will take him to [Lompoc penitentiary](#) and as the bus drives down the road, Brian and Mia, along with Leo and Santos (who assisted in the

Dominican Republic heists), arrive in their cars to intercept it.

Fast Five (2011)

Main article: [Fast Five](#)

Following the events of *Fast & Furious*, when Dominic is being transported to a U.S. prison, Mia and Brian lead an assault on the bus, causing it to crash and free Dominic. While authorities search for them, the trio escape to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Awaiting Dominic's arrival, Mia and Brian join their friend Vince and other participants on a job to steal three cars from a train. The job goes awry when Brian and Mia discover the train is carrying DEA agents and that the cars are seized property. When Dominic arrives with the rest of the participants, he realizes that one of them, Zizi is only interested in stealing one car: the [Ford GT40](#). Dominic has Mia steal the car herself, while Brian and Dominic fight Zizi and his henchmen, with Zizi killing the [DEA](#) agents assigned to the vehicles. Dominic and Brian are captured and brought to Zizi's boss, who orders the pair be interrogated to discover the location of the car. However, they manage to escape and retreat to their safehouse.

Dominic, Brian, and Mia are blamed for the murder of the DEA agents and [U.S. DSS](#) agent Luke Hobbs ([Dwayne Johnson](#)) and his team arrive in Rio to capture him. While Brian, Dominic and Mia examine the car to discover its importance, Vince arrives and is revealed to be working for Reyes when he removes a computer chip from the car. Dominic forces Vince to leave and, after investigating the chip, Brian discovers it contains details of Reyes' criminal empire including the locations of \$100 million in cash, and plan on stealing Reyes' money to start a new life. The trio organize

a team to perform the heist, recruiting Han, Roman, Tej, Leo, Santos, Gisele and Vince. Hobbs and his team eventually find and arrest Dominic, Mia, Brian and Vince. While transporting them to an airport for extradition to the United States, the convoy is attacked by Reyes' men, killing Hobbs' team and Vince. Hobbs is saved by Dominic, Brian and Mia as they fight back against Reyes' men and escape. Wanting revenge for their murdered team, Hobbs and Elena Neves ([Elsa Pataky](#)) agree to help with the heist.

The gang breaks into the police station where Reyes' money is kept and tear the vault from the building using their cars, dragging it through the city with police in pursuit. Believing they cannot outrun the police, Dominic makes Brian continue on without him while he attacks the police and the pursuing Reyes, using the vault attached to his car to smash their vehicles. Brian returns to kill Zizi, while Reyes is badly injured by Dominic's assault. Hobbs arrives on the scene and executes Reyes. Hobbs refuses to let the pair go free, but unwilling to arrest the team, agrees to give them a 24-hour head start to escape. The gang split Reyes' money, with Dominic leaving Vince's share to his family, and they go their separate ways. In a [post-credits scene](#), Hobbs is given a special file by Agent Monica Fuentes concerning the hijacking of a military convoy in [Berlin](#). In the file, Hobbs discovers a recent photo of Letty, who was presumed deceased, revealing she survived the events of *Fast & Furious*.

Fast & Furious 6 (2013)

Main article: [Fast & Furious 6](#)

Following their successful Rio heist, Dominic Toretto (Vin Diesel) and his crew of professional criminals have retired around the

world: Dominic lives with Elena, his sister Mia (Brewster) and Brian O'Conner (Walker) have had a son, Jack. Gisele (Gadot) and Han (Kang) have moved to Hong Kong and Roman (Gibson) and Tej (Ludacris) live in luxury.

Diplomatic Security Service (DSS) agent Luke Hobbs (Johnson) and his partner Riley Hicks (Carano) investigate the destruction of a Russian military convoy, believing former British Special Forces soldier Owen Shaw ([Luke Evans](#)) and his crew are responsible. Hobbs tracks down Dominic and requests his help in bringing Shaw down; Dominic agrees when Hobbs presents him with a photo of Dominic's former girlfriend Letty Ortiz (Rodriguez), whom he thought was dead. Dominic gathers his crew together (minus Leo and Santos, who are still gambling their heist money inside [Monaco](#) casinos) and they accept the mission in exchange for full amnesty for their past crimes, which will allow them to return home to the United States; Mia and Elena remain with Jack.

The crew are led to Shaw's London hideout by one of his henchmen, but it is revealed to be a trap intended to distract the crew and police while Shaw's crew performs a heist elsewhere. Shaw flees by car, detonating his hideout behind him and disabling most of the police, leaving Dominic, Brian, Roman, Tej, Han, Gisele, Hobbs and Riley to pursue him. Letty arrives to help Shaw, and shoots Dominic without hesitation before escaping. Back at their headquarters, Hobbs tells Dominic's crew that Shaw is stealing components to create a Nightshade device which can disable power in an entire region; he intends to sell it to the highest bidder. Meanwhile, Shaw's investigation into the opposing crew reveals Letty's relationship with Dominic, but she is revealed

to be suffering from amnesia.

Roman, Han, Gisele, and Riley investigate a subordinate of Shaw who reveals Shaw's connection to Arturo Braga, a drug lord imprisoned by Brian (*Fast & Furious*). Brian returns to the United States as a prisoner to gain access to Braga; Braga reveals that Brian will only get close to Shaw if Shaw allows it, and discloses how Letty survived the explosion that was thought to have killed her. Shaw went to finish her off but after learning that she had no memory, he took her in. Aided by a former ally in the FBI, Brian is released from prison. In London, Dominic races Letty in a street racing competition. Afterwards, the pair talk and Dominic returns her necklace. When she leaves, Shaw arrives and offers to let Dominic and his crew walk away without harm, but Dominic refuses to leave without Letty. Shaw tries to threaten Dominic by a laser aimed gunman, Hobbs also aims at Shaw. Dominic says "two-bit government hack", repeating what Shaw called him earlier. Shaw then leaves without further incident.

Tej tracks Shaw's next attack to a NATO Spanish military base. Shaw and his crew assault a military convoy carrying a computer chip to complete the Nightshade device. Dominic and his crew interfere, destroying the convoy while Shaw, accompanied by Letty, commandeers a tank and begins destroying cars along the highway. Roman manages to anchor his car to the tank, which Brian then pushes over a bridge, flipping the tank. Letty is thrown from the tank and Dominic risks his life to save her from falling to her death. In the aftermath, Shaw and his men are captured, but he reveals that he has kidnapped Mia. The crew are forced to release Shaw, and Riley (revealed to be working for Shaw) leaves

with him; Letty chooses to remain with Dom. Shaw and his crew board a large aircraft while it is in motion on a runway while Dominic and his crew give chase. Dominic, Letty, Brian, and Hobbs board the craft; Brian rescues Mia and they escape using a car on board. The plane attempts to take off but is held down by excess weight as Han, Gisele, Roman, Tej, Brian, and Mia tether the plane to their vehicles. Gisele sacrifices herself to save Han. Letty kills Riley and both she and Hobbs leap to safety, but Dominic pursues Shaw and the computer chips. Shaw is thrown from the plane as it crashes into the ground; Dom drives one of the remaining cars through the nose of the plane and reunites with his crew, giving the chip to Hobbs to secure their amnesty.

In the aftermath, Dominic and his team return to the United States. Hobbs and Elena arrive to confirm the crew are free. Han is still reeling from Gisele's death and decides to head to Tokyo as part of their original plan to settle down there. Before Hobbs and Elena leave, Dominic states that Elena does not have to go, but she responds saying that this is his family and the police department is her family, accepting that he chose Letty over her. As Dominic's crew gather to share a meal, Dominic asks Letty if the gathering felt familiar; she answers no, but that it feels like home. The scene ends with Roman eating and Brian exclaiming, by house rules, that the former has to say grace mirroring Dom's role at the first family meal he attended some years before. In the [post-credits scene](#), taking place during the events of *The Fast and the Furious: Tokyo Drift*, Han's death is revealed to have been caused by an unknown driver, Ian Shaw ([Jason Statham](#)), who leaves Dom a threatening message and walks away.

Fast & Furious 7 (2015)

Main article: [Fast & Furious 7](#)

Fast & Furious 7 will follow the events of *The Fast and the Furious: Tokyo Drift*. [James Wan](#) will direct the seventh film, replacing Justin Lin, who had directed the previous four films. [Vin Diesel](#), [Dwayne Johnson](#), [Michelle Rodriguez](#), [Jordana Brewster](#), [Tyrese Gibson](#), [Ludacris](#), and [Lucas Black](#) will return to reprise their respective characters, along with [Paul Walker](#), who passed away in a fatal car accident before filming was complete.^{[3][4]} [Jason Statham](#), who made a cameo appearance in *Fast & Furious 6*, will portray the villain. Thai martial artist [Tony Jaa](#), UFC fighter [Ronda Rousey](#), [Kurt Russell](#), [Michael Jai White](#), and [Djimon Hounsou](#) will also join the cast.^{[5][6][7]}

Filming commenced in September 2013, with the theatrical release originally slated for July 11, 2014. Universal Pictures halted production following the death of [Paul Walker](#) on November 30, 2013. On December 22, 2013, Vin Diesel revealed the new release date to be April 10, 2015, via his Facebook account.^[3]

Future

Vin Diesel indicated that he loves *Fast & Furious 7*.^[8] Dwayne Johnson has expressed interest in future films in the series and stated that there are plans for a spin-off film featuring his character Hobbs, but that the Hobbs [spin-off](#) would not be filmed or released until after the seventh film is released.^[9] [Paul Walker](#) had stated that an eighth film was "guaranteed," with the studio also wanting ninth and tenth installments; however, his death has now left an uncertain fate for the franchise.^{[3][10]}

Character	Film
	<i>The Fast and the Furious</i> <i>2 Fast 2 Furious</i> <i>The Fast and the Furious: Tokyo Drift</i> <i>Fast & Furious</i> <i>Fast Five</i> <i>Fast 6</i>
Dominic Toretto	Vin Diesel Vin Diesel
Brian O'Conner	Paul Walker Paul Walker
Leticia "Letty" Ortiz	Michelle Rodriguez Michelle Rodriguez (Picture only) M
Mia Toretto	Jordana Brewster Jordana Brewster
Roman Pearce	Tyrese Gibson Tyrese Gibson
Tej Parker	Chris 'Ludacris' Bridges Chris 'Ludacris'
Han Seoul-Oh	Sung Kang
Gisele Yashar	Gal Gadot
Elena Neves	Elsa Pataky
Luke Hobbs	Dwayne Johnson

Vince	Matt Schulze	Matt Schulze
Leon	Johnny Strong	
Jesse	Chad Lindberg	
Agent Bilkins	Thom Barry	
Monica Fuentes	Eva Mendes	Eva Mendes
Carter Verone	Cole Hauser	
Suki	Devon Aoki	
Sean Boswell	Lucas Black	
Neela	Nathalie Kelley	
Twinkie	Bow Wow	
Takashi	Brian Tee	
Tego Leo	Tego Calderón	
Rico Santos	Don Omar	
Arturo Braga	John Ortiz	Jc C
Fenix Calderon	Laz Alonso	L A

Agent Stasiak	Shea Whigham	S W
Riley Hicks		G C
Owen Shaw		L E
Jah		Jc T.
Ian Shaw		Ja
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↳ *Posted on February 18, 2014*

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Paul Walker's Death: 'Fast & Furious

7' Delayed But Won't Be Scrapped



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UPDATED: The movie was on hiatus for Thanksgiving when Walker died in a car crash Saturday; Universal brass held a meeting Sunday morning to discuss the fate

of the film.

Universal and the team behind *Fast & Furious 7* are facing a delay in production following [the tragic death](#) of actor **Paul Walker**, but sources say the movie will not be abandoned entirely.

Walker, along with the rest of the cast and crew of *Fast 7*, had been scheduled to return to Atlanta on Sunday to resume shooting the big-budget film, which features extensive car racing. Those plans are on hold until Monday or Tuesday at the earliest.

Director **James Wan** and Universal executives held a conference call Sunday morning to discuss the state of the film, whether rewrites would be necessary and how to proceed in a manner that would be respectful to Walker's death. Walker, 40, was a favorite on the set of the *Fast* movies, and his death has left his fellow stars, including **Vin Diesel** and **Dwayne Johnson**, and the crew devastated.

Fast 7, which was well underway shooting in Atlanta, was on hiatus for the Thanksgiving holiday. Walker had returned to Southern California when the limited-edition Porsche he was a passenger in crashed Saturday afternoon in Valencia, bursting into flames. The driver has been identified as **Roger Rodas**, a well-respected financial adviser and the CEO of Walker's company Always Evolving (the duo met because of their shared passion for cars).

Walker was reprising his role as Brian O'Conner in *Fast 7*. The seventh film in the racing-centric action franchise is slated to hit

theaters July 11. The film is on an expedited schedule in order to make that release date (**Justin Lin**, the director of previous installments, bowed out in part because he didn't want to work on the speedy timeline), so any delay in production could impact that release date. In addition, marketing *Fast 7* could pose a challenge, considering Walker died in a crash of a flashy car similar to those used in the movies.

PHOTOS: Paul Walker's Career in Pictures

Insiders say a large part of the film had been shot, although in January, Walker and the rest of the *Fast 7* team were scheduled to travel to Abu Dhabi to film additional scenes.

"All of us at Universal are heartbroken," a studio spokesperson said in a statement Saturday night. "Paul was truly one of the most beloved and respected members of our studio family for 14 years, and this loss is devastating to us, to everyone involved with the *Fast and Furious* films, and to countless fans. We send our deepest and most sincere condolences to Paul's family."

The studio declined to comment on the future of *Fast 7*.

In January 2008, director **Terry Gilliam** faced a similar situation when **Heath Ledger** died in the middle of shooting *The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus*. The independent film suspended production temporarily. Ultimately, **Johnny Depp**, **Jude Law** and **Colin Farrell** came aboard to portray various versions of Ledger's character.

Ledger's death also came just as Warner Bros. was ramping up marketing for *The Dark Knight*. The studio didn't shy away from showing images of Ledger as the Joker throughout the campaign, despite the macabre nature of Ledger's character.

STORY: Hollywood Pays Tribute to Paul Walker

Two films starring Walker are awaiting release: Hurricane Katrina drama *Hours*, due out in December, and *Brick Mansions*, now in postproduction. *Brick Mansions*, from EuropaCorp and Relativity Media, is an English-language remake of the 2004 French action movie *District B13*.

Pantelion Films, a joint venture between Lionsgate and Televisa, acquired North American rights to *Hours* in August and is tentatively planning a dual release in theaters and on VOD.

↳ [Posted on February 18, 2014](#)

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'Fast & Furious 7' Gets New Release Date

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UPDATED: Star Vin Diesel posted on Facebook that the movie will be released April 10, 2015, following a delay in production due to Paul Walker's death; a source confirms the late actor will appear in the movie.

Fast & Furious 7 will be released April 10, 2015, star **Vin Diesel** [announced](#) Sunday night on Facebook.

OUR EDITOR RECOMMENDS



['Fast & Furious 7' Director James Wan's Last Interview on Set Before Paul Walker Crash»](#)



['Fast & Furious 7' Writer Working on Fitting Send-off for Paul Walker»](#)



Paul Walker's Death: Official Says No Mechanical Issues in Car Crash »

Universal had [put production on the film on hold indefinitely](#) after star **Paul Walker** died in a fiery car crash on Nov. 30. It had originally been slotted to open July 11.

Diesel wrote: "The last scene we filmed together ... There was a unique sense of completion, of pride we shared ... in the film we were now completing ... the magic captured ... and, in just how far we've come ... Fast and Furious 7 will be released ... April 10th 2015! P.S. He'd want you to know first ... "

PHOTOS: Paul Walker's Career in Pictures

An informed source confirmed to *The Hollywood Reporter* that Walker will appear in *Fast & Furious 7*, but further details were not immediately available.

The 40-year-old Walker, who was on Thanksgiving break from shooting *Fast & Furious 7*, was at a charity car show when he hopped into the passenger seat of a limited-edition red Porsche. His friend, **Roger Rodas**, 38, had been driving the car when it crashed on Rye Canyon Loop in Valencia. Both Walker and Rodas died in the crash. (Investigators have ruled out debris or mechanical failure as causes of the crash and are looking at speed alone.)

After two days of emergency meetings, Universal announced that

the production of the seventh film would be put on hold so that the shocked and bereaved cast and crew could have time to mourn and the filmmakers could assess how the film would need to be changed.

PHOTOS: Paul Walker and Other Notable Deaths of 2013

Sources told THR that executives were trying to find a way to salvage footage already shot for *Fast & Furious 7* instead of starting fresh. But experts say that either way, this tragic twist could lead to the largest insurance claim in Hollywood history.

Sources say writer **Chris Morgan** and director **James Wan** (who took over the franchise from **Justin Lin**) began crafting revisions to the script that Universal execs hope can retire Walker's character from the series using scenes already shot.

The seventh installment in the series was to star Walker, Diesel and many of the other franchise regulars including **Jordana Brewster, Tyrese Gibson, Michelle Rodriguez** and **Dwayne Johnson**.

Walker, known for playing ex-cop Brian O'Conner in the car action franchise — sources say he made \$8.5 million for *Fast 6* and between \$9 million and \$13 million for *Fast 7* plus backend — had also starred in *Varsity Blues*, *Pleasantville* and *Hours*, which opened in theaters in limited release this past weekend.

Kim Masters contributed to this report.

↳ Posted on February 18, 2014

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Paul Walker Biography



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Born in California in 1973, Paul Walker made his big-screen debut in the 1986 horror spoof *Monster in Your Closet*. After appearing in several television shows in the 1990s, including *Charles in Charge*, *Who's the Boss?* and *The Young and the Restless*, Walker gained attention with a role in the 1999 film *Varsity Blues*, and his TV days were officially behind him. After working in teen movies such as *She's All That* and *The Skulls*,

Walker got his breakthrough role in 2001 with *The Fast and the Furious*, which would become his star vehicle and keep him busy through four sequels and a short prequel. *The Fast and the*

Furious franchise established Walker as an action-film mainstay, and he went on to appear in several films in the genre, including *Takers*, *Hours* and *Vehicle 19*. Walker died in a car accident on November 30, 2013, at age 40.

Early Years

Born on September 12, 1973, in Glendale, California, Paul Walker appeared in front of the camera at a young age, modeling and acting in television shows such as *Charles in Charge*, *Highway to Heaven* and *Who's the Boss*. In 1986, he made his film debut in the horror spoof *Monster in the Closet* while also landing a recurring role on TV's *Throb*.

After high school, Walker attended various California community colleges, but he dove into acting full-time in 1993, taking a role in the soap opera *The Young and the Restless*. After a handful of TV guest roles and the lead in *Tammy and the T-Rex*, Walker starred in the family comedy *Meet the Deedles* and left his TV career behind for good.

Walker's next role was a big one for his career: He appeared opposite [Reese Witherspoon](#) in the critically acclaimed, high-concept *Pleasantville*. From that point on, Walker found himself in starring roles in such late-1990s films as *She's All That*, *Varsity Blues* and *The Skulls*—all pitched at a teen audience which helped turn Walker into a heartthrob.

The Role of a Lifetime

In 2001, Walker's career hit overdrive when he landed a leading role alongside up-and-comer [Vin Diesel](#) in *The Fast and the Furious*.

A film that paid homage to road films of the 1970s, *The Fast and the Furious* brought Walker to new heights of fame on the way to box-office receipts of more than \$200 million.

Two years later, the franchise was back with its first sequel, *2 Fast 2 Furious*, and Walker was again along for the ride. The film's gross was even larger than the first, and a bona fide hit series was under way. Walker then appeared in a few more action-oriented movies, including *Timeline* (2003), *Into the Blue* (2005) and *Running Scared* (2006), while also signing on to appear in the ensemble drama *Noel* (2004) and the children's adventure movie *Eight Below* (2006).

Walker also showed his range as an actor in the 2006 war drama *Flags of Our Fathers*, directed by [Clint Eastwood](#). He continued to take on more action movie roles in *The Death and Life of Bobby Z* (2007), *Takers* (2010) and *Fast Five* (2011)—the third installment of the *Fast and Furious* franchise.

In 2012, Walker signed on to film *The Fast and the Furious 6* (2013), keeping the series' momentum going.

Tragic Death

Walker died in a car accident on November 30, 2013 at the age of 40. Walker was in Santa Clarita, California to attend a charity event for Reach Out Worldwide to benefit victims of Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines. He was reportedly in the passenger seat of a Porsche when his friend who was driving lost control, crashing the

vehicle into a tree. The car was engulfed in flames and both individuals were pronounced dead at the scene of the accident.

At the time of his death, Walker was working on two upcoming films: *Brick Mansions* and *Fast & Furious 7*, both slated to be released in 2014.

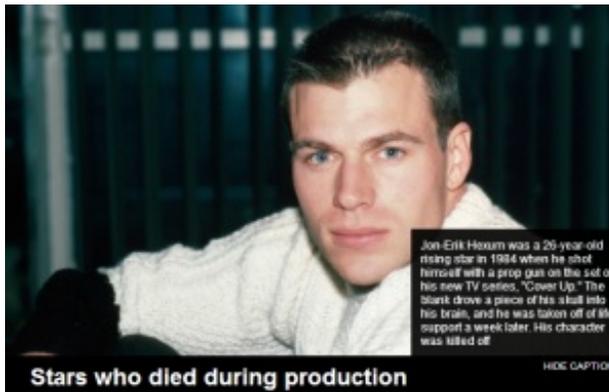
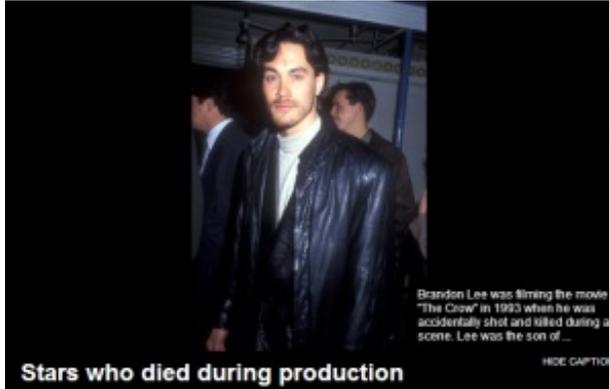
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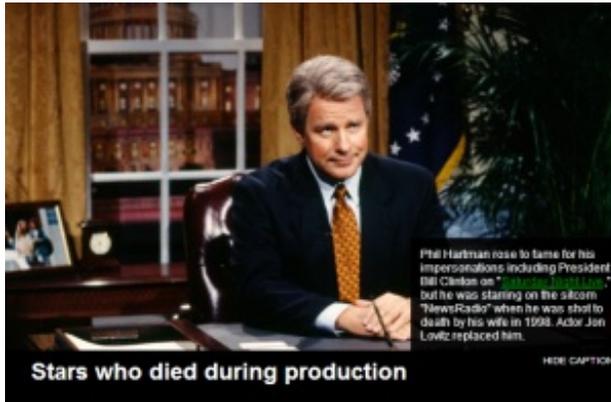
↳ Posted on [February 18, 2014](#)

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Paul Walker and other stars who died during production







Phil Hartman rose to fame for his impersonations including President Bill Clinton on "Saturday Night Live," but he was starring on the sitcom "NewsRadio" when he was shot to death by his wife in 1998. Actor Jon Lovitz replaced him.

Stars who died during production

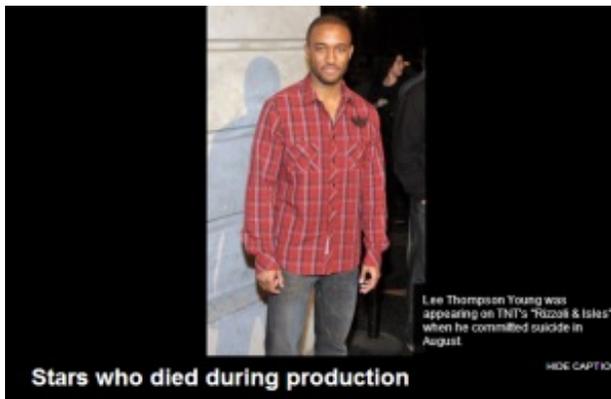
HIDE CAPTION



Chris Farley, at center with filmmakers Tyrone Montgomery, left, and Thomas Stalmach after they won the Oscar for best **animation** **short film** for "Quest" in 1997. Farley reportedly was working on the animated film "Shrek" when he died of an overdose in 1997. His "SNL" colleague Mike Myers would go on to snag the role.

Stars who died during production

HIDE CAPTION



Lee Thompson Young was appearing on TNT's "Guzzi & Isles" when he committed suicide in August.

Stars who died during production

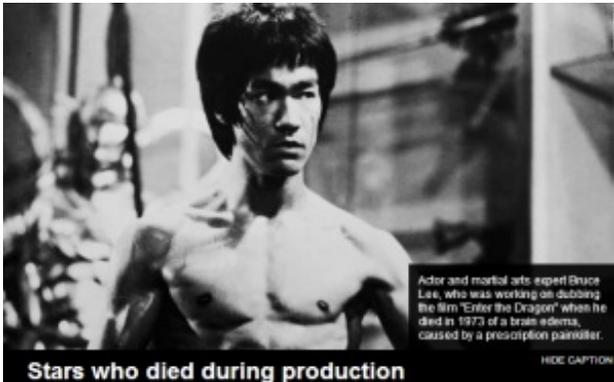
HIDE CAPTION



Natalie Wood mysteriously drowned in 1981 near Santa Catalina Island, California, during production of the science fiction film "Transformers." Her co-star, Christopher Walken, was sailing with the actress and her husband, Robert Wagner, at the time.

HIDE CAPTION

Stars who died during production



Actor and martial arts expert Bruce Lee, who was working on dubbing the film "Enter the Dragon" when he died in 1973 of a brain edema, caused by a prescription painkiller.

HIDE CAPTION

Stars who died during production



Heath Ledger was filming "The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus" in 2009 when he died of accidental drug intoxication. The film was completed using other actors as fantasy versions of Ledger's character.

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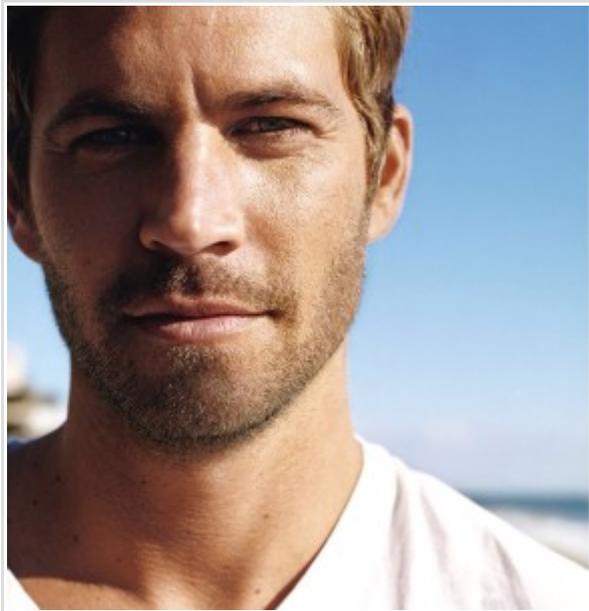
Stars who died during production

Posted on February 17, 2014

Autopsy blames impact and fire for actor Paul Walker's death



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“Fast & Furious” star [Paul Walker](#) may have initially survived a horrific car crash but died moments later of a combination of injuries from the impact and the resulting fire, according to a coroner’s report.

The one-page preliminary report released by the Los Angeles County coroner’s office Wednesday listed the cause of the actor’s death as the “combined effects of traumatic and thermal injuries.”

An autopsy concluded that [Roger Rodas](#), who was driving the red Porsche Carrera GT, suffered “multiple traumatic injuries,” but it was not clear in the report if he was still alive when the car burst into flames soon after the wreck.

Since two different doctors did the separate autopsies, the difference in the description of their injuries does not mean the deaths were significantly different, Los Angeles County Assistant Chief Coroner Ed Winter told CNN.

It is not known how long each man lived after the crash as the fire began, Winter said. That information may be included when full autopsy reports are released in several weeks, he said.



Actor Paul Walker dies

The coroner confirmed what many witnesses told investigators: Rodas was the driver in the crash; Walker was the passenger of the high-performance Porsche that clipped a light pole and a tree before erupting in flames on a Southern California street Saturday afternoon.

The deaths were officially ruled an accident by the coroner.

'Fast & Furious' halts production

A toxicology report, which could show if drugs or alcohol played a role in the accident, will be available in six to eight weeks, the report said.

Video obtained by CNN from a security camera posted on a building on the opposite side of the street from the crash suggests that the fire that engulfed the Porsche did not erupt until

about a minute after the car crashed.

In the video, which does not show the car, black smoke is seen rising from the crash scene 60 seconds after the light pole and a tree fall. Smoke is faintly visible above the scene after one minute, followed by a heavy plume of black smoke after two minutes.

The crash happened on a wide street in a business park in Santa Clarita, California, about 30 miles north of Hollywood. Walker was attending a holiday toy donation event for his charity, Reach Out WorldWide, when he hopped into the car with Rodas for a ride, witnesses said.

The Porsche, which was one of only a few hundred made, was on display at the event, which was held at a high-performance car shop owned by Rodas.

Minutes after the two men drove away, people at the event heard the crash about 500 yards away, witnesses said.

[Big questions in Walker crash probe](#)

Next 'Fast & Furious' on hold

Production of Walker's latest movie — the seventh installment in the "Fast & Furious" franchise — will be shut down "for a period of time," the studio said Wednesday.

"At this time we feel it is our responsibility to shut down production on 'Fast & Furious 7' for a period of time so we can

assess all options available to move forward with the franchise,” Universal Pictures said in a statement.

The studio also said it would donate “a percentage of proceeds from the upcoming home entertainment release of ‘Fast & Furious 6’” to [Walker’s charity](#).

“With the passing of Paul, the world has lost a man who spent a great deal of his life in service to others,” Universal Pictures Chairman Donna Langley said. “We share in the deep grief of his family, friends and the countless fans who love him.”

Stories of Walker’s incredible generosity have become a major aspect to coverage of the actor’s death.

CNN confirmed one story from a decade ago when Walker noticed a young U.S. soldier shopping with his fiancée for a wedding ring in a Santa Barbara jewelry store.

“The groom was just back from duty in Iraq, and he was going to be deployed again soon and wanted to buy a wedding ring, but he said he just could not afford it,” saleswoman Irene King told CNN. “I don’t think the soldier realized how expensive those rings are, about \$10,000.”

“Walker called the manager over and said, ‘Put that girl’s ring on my tab,’” she said. “Walker left all his billing info, and it was a done deal. The couple was stunned. She was thrilled and could not believe someone did this.”

King called it “the most generous thing I have ever seen.”

Walker and Rodas had planned Saturday as a day to help survivors of Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines. The car shop website invited customers to a “Charity Toy Drive & Automotive Social Gathering.”

[Why this Porsche is not a car to mess with](#)

Box office success

Walker’s career began on the small screen, first with a commercial for Pampers diapers when he was 2, and then with parts in shows such as “Highway to Heaven” and “Touched by an Angel.”

His first few movie roles were as supporting characters in teen flicks, most notably in “Varsity Blues.” But his career really took off when he was cast as undercover cop Brian O’Conner infiltrating a street-racing gang in 2001’s “The Fast and the Furious.”

The box office success of the surprise summer hit yielded numerous sequels. And along with Vin Diesel, Walker was one of the franchise stalwarts. The six “Fast & Furious” films sold a total of \$2.6 billion in tickets worldwide, according to BoxOfficeMojo.

Walker wasn’t just a car enthusiast on the silver screen; off screen, the actor competed in the Redline Time Attack racing series.

On his verified Twitter account, Walker described himself as an “outdoorsman, ocean addict, adrenaline junkie ... and I do some

acting on the side.”

Walker also is the star of “Hours,” an independent film scheduled to be released December 13 about a father struggling to keep his newborn infant alive after Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans

↳ Posted on [February 17, 2014](#)

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Big questions in Walker crash probe



⌘ - After the crash that killed actor [Paul Walker](#) and his friend and financial manager [Roger Rodas](#), big questions remain unanswered, including:

Did anything go wrong with the vehicle?

The Porsche Carrera GT the two men were in has three times the horsepower of the average car. It's powered by a V-10, 610-

horsepower engine. At \$450,000 new, it [flies down the road](#) and is notoriously difficult to handle.

A top driver has called the car “scary,” Autoweek magazine [reported](#).

Rodas was the sixth owner of this one, the magazine said.

Rodas was driving Saturday, according to autopsy results released Wednesday by the Los Angeles County coroner’s office.

Authorities say speed was a factor in the crash. Still, Walker and Rodas were both experienced drivers, leading many to question whether something went wrong with the vehicle.

Jim Torp, a car enthusiast who was at the charity event where Rodas and Walker had been just before the crash, said he thought he heard some kind of blast before the car slammed into a light pole. “What the first explosion was — I don’t know if their tire blew up, because it sounded like a tire blew on the car,” Torp [told CNN on Monday](#).

[Autopsy blames impact, fire for deaths](#)

How fast were they going?

The area where the crash took place — a wide business park road in Valencia, California — has a reputation for being popular with drivers who like the thrill of going fast. In recent years, authorities have tried to stop the speeding in the area.

A 45-mph speed limit sign was on the light pole knocked down by the Porsche. A security camera video, which does not show the car itself, suggests that black smoke started to rise from the vehicle about a minute after the light pole and tree fell.

A Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department investigation is focused on how fast the 2005 vehicle was going.

Skid marks on the asphalt near the crash site, which indicate a car had done doughnut spins, also are being examined, but Torp told CNN that he looked closely at the skid marks and believes they were left by a car with smaller tires.

[Why this Porsche is not a car to mess with](#)

Was anyone else in danger?

Amid the outpouring of grief for the deaths of Walker and Rodas, many people are also asking whether the ride had endangered pedestrians or other drivers. It took place at 3:30 p.m. Saturday.

Online stories about the crash are filled with comments from readers saying it's fortunate that no one else was killed or injured.

In 2001, when the first "Fast & Furious" movie was released, Walker talked about the dangers of drag racing. "Nothing would be worse than a 120-mile-an-hour blowout, on a surface street, you know, with pedestrians lining up and down. You know, it's just common sense, it's just not worth the risk factor," he said.

Authorities have ruled out drag racing in this accident, and those who knew Walker and Rodas say they were not the sort of people who would risk their lives and others' in a race.

↳ Posted on [February 17, 2014](#)

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'Fast & Furious 7' will not kill off Paul Walker's character



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It's not an easy thing, to finish a movie without one of your lead actors.

When Heath Ledger died midway through filming "The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus," director Terry Gilliam seized on the film's magical-real aesthetic and finished off the movie with Colin Farrell and Johnny Depp [fake-Shemping](#) Ledger. When Oliver

Reed died before filming key scenes in “Gladiator,” Ridley Scott pasted Reed’s head onto a body double using digital effects. It’s a tricky thing, morbid and money-grubbing but also well-intentioned and even a little sacred. You want to honor the dead actor’s final work; but you also want to finish your movie. River Phoenix and Marilyn Monroe died too early to salvage “Dark Blood” or “Something’s Got to Give;” a tragedy for many reasons, not least because they both looked much better than “The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus.”

[Coroner: Car carrying Walker going 100-plus mph](#)

So: “Fast & Furious 7.” Paul Walker died in November with filming only half-finished, although given the age we live in fans had already seen Walker [on set](#) and [in character](#). Cutting Walker out of the film entirely would have been a costly endeavor. Less cynically, you could argue that keeping Walker in the film was the right move. It would provide closure. And after all, the “Fast” franchise was something like Walker’s life’s work. But that opened up all kinds of creative problems for the Fast filmmakers — particularly since everyone attached to the film been proclaiming that “Fast 7” is an attempt at world-building towards a new trilogy. (Translation: They probably already had half-sketched plans for Brian O’Conner in Fast 10.)

[According to the Hollywood Reporter](#), the crew behind “Fast 7” has opted to “retire” Brian O’Conner. He will specifically not be killed off, according to the Reporter’s sources. Universal had no comment on the report, but the rumor smells true. Given [the high-speed nature of Paul Walker’s death](#), it probably felt like bad

taste to kill a character played by Walker in a movie about cars driving very fast. Still, it's difficult to imagine how O'Conner will leave the series. The franchise has a well-stated commitment to Family, and "Furious 6" reaffirmed the central tenet — sentimental, but full-hearted — that the characters will die for each other, even after they've ridden into several different last-big-score sunsets. We'll find out O'Conner's happy fate in April 2015.

↳ *Posted on February 17, 2014*

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Paul Walker's autopsy report reveals horrific final moments before 'Fast & Furious' star's fatal crash; Porsche was traveling at more than 100 mph at impact



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A coroner has revealed that Walker and buddy Roger Rodas succumbed to 'combined effects of traumatic and thermal injuries.' Two Los Angeles men pleaded not guilty to theft from crash site.



Paul Walker and his friend Roger Rodas both died from what the

coroners ruled 'combined effects of traumatic and thermal injuries' in a fiery Nov. 30 crash.

[Actor Paul Walker](#) suffered horrific burns and multiple injuries in the 100-mph Porsche crash that killed him and a pal, autopsy reports released Friday show.

Neither Walker, nor the man behind the wheel — his business partner Roger Rodas — had drugs or alcohol in their systems, according to reports obtained by the Daily News.



First responders gather evidence near the wreckage of a Porsche sports car that crashed into a light pole on Nov. 30, where Paul Walker and Rodas died.

Nearly all of Walker's body was charred through the skin, and his hair color and eye color could not be determined upon visual examination, the gruesome report stated.

Officials said the 40-year-old actor was found in a “pugilistic stance” with right wrist and left arm fractures, indicating he had braced for impact.

↳ *Posted on February 17, 2014*

↳ *Leave a comment*

Cody Walker in ‘Fast & Furious 7?’ Vin Diesel Prepares to Meet with Studio Over FF Future



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Vin Diesel said he and others are preparing to meet with Universal studios about the future of the “Fast & Furious” series.

“Tomorrow we meet with the studio, regarding the future of the Fast saga... and the completion of seven,” he told his fans via Facebook on Friday.

But Vin didn’t mention whether Cody Walker would be part of the discussion.

Producers are considering using Walker as a replacement in some of the scenes that Paul Walker was slated to be in, reported the Daily Mail.

They’re still working on how to best “retire” Brian O’Conner, having

decided not to kill him off.

The upcoming installment in the popular franchise is due out in April 2015.

“Continuing the global exploits in the franchise built on speed, Vin Diesel and Paul Walker lead the returning cast of Fast & Furious 7, which will be released by Universal Pictures on April 10, 2015,” Universal Studios said in an official statement.

“James Wan directs this chapter of the hugely successful series, and Neal H. Moritz and Vin Diesel return as producers.”

Vin added on Facebook, accompanying an old photo of him and Walker, that “We always took pride in trying to make each one better than the last...”

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