

New York Daily News - <http://www.nydailynews.com>**New paternity woes
for Davis' brother**

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After 10 years, Deborah Batts just wants Geoffrey Davis to take responsibility for the handsome boy she says is his child.

Batts filed court papers this week to demand child support from the City Council candidate, branding him a "Jekyll and Hyde" type who charmed her with glib promises but never followed through.

"I'm doing this so my son can have a father and I can get some help raising him," said Batts, 37, a single mom of three. "I'm tired of doing it all on my own."

Through a spokesman, Davis refused to say yesterday whether he believes Batts' 10-year-old boy, Devinaire, is his son.

The paternity claim is just the latest accusation to hit Davis, 39, who is running for the seat that had been held by his brother, slain Brooklyn Councilman James Davis.

Geoffrey Davis has acknowledged fathering another woman's baby and agreed to pay child support in that case, court records show.

Over the years, he has been arrested on charges of picking up a prostitute, receiving stolen property and raping a date - a count that was dropped.

After James Davis was gunned down in City Hall on July 23, a committee led by his mother, Thelma Davis, named Geoffrey to replace his brother in the Democratic primary, where he will run unopposed. Davis will face Working Families Party candidate Letitia James in the November general election.

Batts said Davis has acknowledged repeatedly that Devinaire is his son.

The boy stayed with Geoffrey and Thelma Davis at their Crown Heights, Brooklyn, home for three days this month to attend the funeral of his uncle, she said.

No-show in court

Batts said she went to Family Court twice to try to obtain formal child support payments from Davis, but he didn't show up. Now she wants a court order to make sure he pays.

"He knows it's his child, but he keeps ducking me," said Batts, who lives in Pennsylvania. "I'm struggling, and he should be helping his own son."

Through spokesman Hank Sheinkopf, Davis admitted having a relationship with Batts and pledged to participate in any court hearing about the boy.

"He certainly tried to be helpful to her and her children," Sheinkopf said.

Batts insisted she has no desire to sink Davis' budding political career. "People do change," she said.