

## **STRETCHER BIOGRAPHY**

Stretcher merges together two of San Diego's premier metal acts: Stretcher and Mower. Both bands towered in the underground scene in the late 1990s and through the 2010s. Founding Stretcher members Tom Stuart (drums) and Joe McGowan (bass) began rehearsing and writing again during the pandemic and eventually welcomed Relevance guitarist Chris Hartjen to begin a new lineup that would go on to see their first official release in two decades.

Former Mower vocalist, Brian Sheerin, had relocated to the east coast. While planning a vacation back to San Diego in 2023, he reached out to different friends looking to schedule a recording session for fun. McGowan replied and was the first to send music. Sheerin began writing lyrics in advance of his flight. After the first jam session went well the trio flew him back out the following month and by the end of the year Sheerin had moved back to California and Stretcher began preparation in earnest for recording new music.

Sheerin placed a call to producer Eddie Wohl (Anthrax/Smile Empty Soul), who had previously produced Mower's third album. The band flew to El Paso to record drums for three tracks with Eddy Garcia (Pissing Razors) and then work began in Los Angeles on guitars and vocals. The group decided to record three more tracks and cut drums for those with recording engineer Eric Emery (Blink-182/Periphery.)

Mastered by Maor Appelbaum (Faith NoMore) the six tracks became an EP - Information Overdose, with a release date of April 4, 2025. The band booked some rehearsal shows with friends in Skinlab, North Korea (feat. Wade Youman of Unwritten Law) and Travis Neal (Divine Heresy/Fraxures) and eventually played a proper hometown show to a full house in September of 2024.

Director Tyler Jordan filmed a video for "Blinding Lights" on location in San Diego and the song served as the first single release from the new lineup.

Stretcher originally made their name with nationwide Metalfest stops and shows with Marilyn Manson, Machine Head, Skinlab, Pissing Razors and Cannibal Corpse. Stretcher self-released two albums, "Everybody Loves A Tragedy"(1998) and "Annomundi"(2000.) Mower and Sheerin gained international recognition with tracks like "Road Rage," featured on Sirius XM and MTV's Headbangers' Ball, and "General Admission" featured in the MX vs. ATV video game. The Mower track "Pieces" is heard as the prom turns in to a mosh pit in the film Balls Out: Gary The Tennis Coach. Mower released three albums on Suburban Noize Records - "Mower" (2003) "Not For You"(2006, produced by Mikey Doling (Snot/Soulfly)) and "Make It A Double"(2009.) Mower shared stages with Slayer, Disturbed, System of a Down, Slipknot, Avenged Sevenfold, Five Finger Death Punch and Linkin Park. Both Stretcher and Mower have performed with and hail from the same San Diego scene that launched P.O.D., Sprung Monkey and Unwritten Law.