



**For Immediate Release**

Tuesday, July 11, 2017

**Coalition to End Sheriff Violence in L.A. Jails  
Issues Statement on Appeals Court's Decision  
to Uphold Lower Court's Injunction Blocking L.A. Sheriff  
from Sharing Names of 300 Problematic Deputies**

**Los Angeles, CA** – The following statement is from Dignity and Power Now (DPN) and The Coalition to End Sheriff Violence in L.A. Jails on the decision of California's 2<sup>nd</sup> District Court of Appeal's decision to uphold a lower court's injunction blocking the Los Angeles County Sheriff from releasing a list of 300 deputies' personnel files containing a history of misconduct to the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office (Case No. B280676):

"Denying disclosure of the list of Los Angeles County sheriffs deputies to the District Attorney's Office of those who have a history of misconduct impacts the safety of the community the County is entrusted to protect.

"We believe that under the law, prosecutors in California have an obligation to hand over any evidence that could help the defense, even if that evidence undermines a deputies credibility.

"The prosecution has a constitutional duty to disclose the names of officers with *Brady* material in their file, and the sheriffs' union's argument to suppress disclosure contravenes the California Supreme Court's holding in *Johnson*. The issue before the Court was not merely a departmental personnel issue, but a public safety crisis that impacts millions of Los Angeles County residents whose safety is entrusted to the Sheriff's Department.

"This is why the fight for subpoena power for the Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission is so critical and necessary to get to the truth. We need effective independent oversight and we need it now."

Along with the brief, over 12,000 petition signatures were submitted urging the Los Angeles Superior Court to allow Sheriff Jim McDonnell to release the 300 personnel records of abuse and misconduct to the District Attorney's Office. The petition signatures were gathered through DPN, an organization that houses The Coalition to End Sheriff Violence in LA Jails.

"The systemic violence and misconduct committed by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department have deeply impacted marginalized communities, causing harm and trauma for many families and their loved ones," said Dignity and Power Now founder Patrisse Cullors. "There is a long legacy of police violence against vulnerable communities in Los Angeles and officers who act irresponsibly are rarely held accountable or prosecuted for their misconduct. Sheriff Jim McDonnell has a constitutional right to provide relevant information about deputies to the prosecutors' offices."

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**DIGNITY AND POWER NOW (DPN)** is a grassroots organization based in Los Angeles that fights for the dignity and power of incarcerated people, their families, and communities. In doing so, DPN wages a fight for everyone because the prison industrial complex forms an imaginative limit on everyone's capacity to envision freedom and liberation. More at [www.dignityandpowernow.com](http://www.dignityandpowernow.com)

**THE COALITION TO END SHERIFF VIOLENCE IN L.A. JAILS** is an alliance of over a dozen Los Angeles County community organizations that are building a movement to end state violence and mass incarceration. Since its inception the Coalition has had four demands:

- Implement independent civilian oversight of Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department
- Decarcerate the L.A. County jail system
- Stop jail expansion
- Respect the civil and human rights of incarcerated people