Coalition to End Sheriff Violence in L.A. Jails | 213.375.4518 | 323.394.5521 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE MARCH 8, 2013 CONTACT: ENGLISH: Patrisse Cullors-Brignac, 213.375.4518 SPANISH: Diana Flores, 310.880.6855 SOUTH LOS ANGELES TOWN HALL ON CIVILIAN OVERSIGHT OF COUNTY JAILS Coalition Calls on Board of Supervisors to assess feasibility of

permanent civilian oversight

LOS ANGELES – The Coalition to End Sheriff Violence in L.A. Jails (C2ESV) calls on the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors to look into the feasibility of permanent civilian oversight of the L.A. county jails. To this end, they will host a Town Hall meeting Thursday, March 14, from 6 pm to 8:30 pm at 1006 East 28th Street, Los Angeles 90011. Los Angeles County 2nd District Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas will be in attendance at the town hall meeting, the aim of which is to educate community residents, students, community leaders, and elected officials about the need and benefits of a permanent civilian review board as a means of addressing the high level of violence inside the LA County jails. The town hall will also gather public testimony from South Los Angeles residents personally impacted by sheriff's violence in the L.A. county jails, while performance art addressing the same will also occur. "When I was incarcerated in the L.A. county jails I was beaten by Sheriff Deputies and left with out food for days. They beat me up because I told them that it was wrong to beat up inmates after I witnessed them do that," said Jermond Davis, a resident of South L.A. "A deputy told me to shut the [expletive] up and started beating me. Then he called other deputies over and they stomped on me for a long time. We need a permanent way to hold the Sheriff's accountable."

"Black and Brown people are the ones who are baring the brunt of the violence and racism inside the L.A. County Jails," said Patrisse Cullors, founder of the Coalition. "We want South L.A. residents to not only be heard, but to be armed with action that has longstanding positive impacts in this city."

VISUALS: Performance art that addresses the stories of residents victimized by sheriff's violence, as well as envisions alternative models of law enforcement and punishment; 2nd District Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas; Coalition founder and performance artist Patrisse Cullors.

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The Coalition to End Sheriff Violence in L.A. Jails is a grassroots multiracial organization bringing together community organizations, health providers, clergy, attorneys, community residents, friends and families and survivors of the brutality inside L.A. jails to fight for real accountability. We are proposing a People's Civilian Review Board comprised wholly of citizens that has subpoen power, where citizen complaints are reviewed and investigated, and recommendations for disciplinary or policy action are made by the board.

endsheriffviolence@gmail.com | www.endsheriffviolence.org