

To: District Attorney Larry Krasner
From: Organizations Calling for Freedom for Mumia Abu-Jamal
Date: Jan. 12, 2017

Re: Pending PCRA Petition Under *Williams v. Pennsylvania*

Dear District Attorney Larry Krasner:

This letter is a request to meet with you January 15 or 16 to discuss Mumia Abu-Jamal's case. Our group will consist of a small delegation of supporters from Philadelphia, NYC and France.

The French representatives hope to deliver an official final copy to you in person of an "*International Call to Release the District Attorney and Police Files Relevant to Mumia Abu-Jamal's Case and to Free him Now*", signed by hundreds of US and international political, labor, educational and cultural leaders, organizations and community activists, a preliminary copy of which is enclosed.

When you ran on a progressive campaign program of ending mass incarceration, you included a promise to "Review past convictions, free the wrongfully convicted." We realize you have only been in office a week or so and have not had time to review such cases, including that of Mumia Abu-Jamal.

At this time, we are simply requesting you exercise the prosecutorial discretion you have and withdraw the opposition of the office of the District Attorney to Mumia Abu-Jamal's PCRA petition founded on *Williams v. Pennsylvania*. Furthermore, based on the record to date, we ask you to request Judge Leon Tucker grant the petition and reinstate Mr. Abu-Jamal's rights to appeal his conviction to the PA Supreme Court.

By doing the right and just thing and supporting Mumia Abu-Jamal's *Williams* petition, you would be commencing a search for justice in a case that is unquestionably one in which justice was denied.

Since Mumia Abu-Jamal filed a new legal action based on *Williams v. Pennsylvania* the Office of the Philadelphia District Attorney has fought against the application of *Williams* to Abu-Jamal's case. Ronald Eisenberg representing the District Attorney's office first argued to Judge Leon Tucker that there was no jurisdiction for the court to hear the petition. He also argued that to grant Mr. Abu-Jamal's petition would be "too much justice" for the courts to handle.

Judge Tucker denied the DA's motion to dismiss the petition and repeatedly ordered that any and all files or memorandum related to Ronald Castille's involvement with Mumia Abu-Jamal's case be disclosed. As summarized in the attached memo, the District Attorney's office has repeatedly insisted that there are no such files.

While we do not accept the representations of the District Attorney's office, and believe that all police and prosecution files related to Mumia Abu-Jamal's case should be publicly released, there

is already evidence produced by the District Attorney's office that warrants a finding that Justice Castille had a significant personal involvement in critical prosecutorial decisions.

In memorandum produced by the District Attorney's office dated March 27, 1990 District Attorney Castille was following the pending capital cases under his jurisdiction. Those cases included Mumia Abu-Jamal. The underlying correspondence from DA Castille to Deputy DA Gaelle Barthold McLaughlin "can not be located" according to the former interim DA.

Additionally District Attorney Castille sent a June 15, 1990 letter to then-governor Casey "strongly urg[ing]" the governor to issue death warrants in 16 Philadelphia capital cases where the appeals process was completed. DA Castille's letter states: "I urge you to send a clear and dramatic message to all police killers that the death penalty actually means something."

This June 15, 1990 letter by DA Castille does not specifically name Mumia Abu-Jamal since his petition for *certiorari* was then filed in the U.S. Supreme Court. Mumia Abu-Jamal's case was a "police killer" case, and the case most watched by Fraternal Order of Police.

Also as disclosed by the District Attorney, after Mumia Abu-Jamal filed a *pro se* petition for *certiorari* on May 23, 1990, challenging long-standing policy of the Philadelphia District Attorney's office in discriminatory jury selection and prejudicial prosecutorial summations, Deputy District Attorney Gaelle Barthold McLaughlin entered her appearance as the attorney of record in the U.S. Supreme Court. Supreme Court.

We firmly believe that Mumia Abu-Jamal is innocent and should never been convicted and sentenced to death for the December 9, 1981 murder of police officer Daniel Faulkner. We believe that Mumia did not receive a fair trial and that his conviction was based on falsified and coerced witness testimony. We believe the trial and post-conviction judge, Albert Sabo, was clearly racially biased as he made clear when he said "I'm gonna help them fry the n----." As is also clear Ronald Castille was a biased Supreme Court judge. For all these reasons, Mumia Abu-Jamal should be freed from prison. We will continue organizing and protesting until we achieve that goal.

Please reply to Pam Africa at 267-760-7344, pamafrica@gmail.com
or Joe Piette at 610-931-2615, jpiette660@hotmail.com.

Thank you

Pam Africa

Joe Piette