Labor Defense Coalition

11331-33 Woodward, Detroit, Michigan 48202

CENTRAL OFFICE

Area Code 313 868-1612

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Dear Community Leaders:

In the next month the pre-trial motion stage of the Hayward Brown cases will be concluded, and the trial stage will begin.

The defense of the cases is concerned with a great deal more than the attempt to exonerate an individual of a charge of violating the law in a given number of instances.

The cases afford us an opportunity to openly scrutinize the past and present practices of the S.T.R.E.S.S. unit of the Detroit Police Department, a unit which has caused the most massive and sustained mobilization our community has seen for some time. Though many of us are weary of S.T.R.E.S.S. as an issue in our community, recent events (such as Patrolman Raymond Peterson being charged with the murder of a citizen on his way to work at the Cadillac Plant), remind us that the community must remain vigilant if police atrocities are to cease.

Further the case affords us an opportunity to analyze, in a publicly educational manner, the nexus between local law enforcement and narcotic trafficking in

our community. The controversy over Judge Crockett's request for the Recorder's Court Bench to unite in a call for a One-Man Grand Jury to look into the narcotics traffic is one manifestation of a generalized concern which must be grappled with at a number of levels throughout our community.

It is this context that necessitates our asking you to join with us in forming a committee that will actively work in the community to do the educational and informational work <u>outside</u> of court that is necessary to guarantee a fair trial for Hayward Brown while at the same time insuring that the fullest possible disclosure of the factual record of the trial is available to our community.

Your name, being linked to this effort, will materially assist us in mobilizing the people of this community in the struggle to eradicate the scourge of heroin from our community.

We don't require a lot of your time, but we do need your support, since as attorneys for the defense we will be foreclosed from directing Defense committee work.

The Committee will be headquartered at the above office which has volunteered it's services to the family and other supporters of this effort.

Your prompt response to our request to serve on the Defense Committee is appreciated, as we need to develop printed materials as soon as possible.

Please contact this office and advise us as to your intentions as soon as is convenient.

If there are any questions kindly contact the signatories of this letter at the above phone or at 259-1330 the law offices of the defense legal team.

Very truly yours,

KENNETH V. COCKREL

THEODORE F. SPEARMAN, JR.

GEOFFREY PAFT

GREGORY HICKS