

**PRESS RELEASE**  
**Detroit Coalition Against Police Brutality**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CONTACT: Ron Scott, Spokesperson**

**313.587.6466**

**January 4, 2005**

**Coalition Calls for Amnesty Involvement in Police Shootings**

*Coalition spokesperson Ron Scott released this statement today:*

1/4/05--"While there has been much printed about the 1300 shootings of Detroit citizens by citizens, precious little attention has been paid to the shootings of citizens by Detroit Police Officers, like the one which occurred early this morning at 3:30 a.m. on Forest and Canfield. The Detroit Coalition Against Police Brutality wishes to express its continuing outrage at what has become a "reign" of bullets over the last month in the City of Detroit. Once again, another citizen has been shot under mysterious circumstances by Detroit police officers where no gun was found. If an unarmed person cannot sit in a vehicle in safety, then all of us are at risk.

"We have seen more than enough shootings. We have not seen enough prosecutions of police officers who take the law, literally, into their own hands. Given that Judge Julian Cook, who presides over the Federal Consent Decree, has given a two-year reprieve to the Detroit Police Department to get its act together, we wonder how many more shootings will occur while the Department tries to work itself into line. We feel that Judge Cook has essentially nullified the full impact of the reforms which were specified in the Consent Decree by disallowing the participation of we, the citizens, who brought the gory details of police brutality to public attention. Moreover, Judge Cook denied our motion to intervene, and the appeal has lain dormant for nearly a year in the Sixth Circuit Court. Without citizen and community involvement, we cannot expect this situation to improve.

"The situation is no better than it was before the Consent Decree was issued. Over the past year, the Detroit Police have shot seven citizens, one dog, and barely missed shooting two children. The families of those who have been shot, the Detroit Coalition, and the community as a whole will continue mobilize against what we feel is 'open season' on Detroit's citizens.

"The Coalition has contacted Amnesty International to investigate this ongoing wave of police violence. We feel there is obviously something wrong with the monitoring process if one of the lynchpins of the Consent Decree calls for a cessation of lethal force, and lethal force continues to abound. We repeat our demand for full disclosure on the officers involved in this morning's as well as prior shootings, including names and histories of officers involved; the names of the victims; and information regarding internal department discipline relative to these officers. Finally, we insist that the Wayne County Prosecutors Office, whose prosecutorial record against police abuse and misconduct can only be described as anemic, apply the same standard to Detroit Police Officers who shoot citizens under questionable circumstances as it applies to citizens who have shot police officers.

**220 Bagley, Suite 808**

**Detroit, Michigan 48226**  
**Det Coalition@aol.com**

**313.963.8116**