



INTERNATIONAL UNION OF POLICE ASSOCIATIONS AFL-CIO

THE ONLY UNION FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

SAM A. CABRAL
International President

JOHN E. O'KEEFE
International Secretary-Treasurer



January 9, 2014

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy
Chairman
United States Senate, Judiciary Committee

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Ranking Member
United States Senate, Judiciary Committee

Dear Sirs:

On behalf of the International Union of Police Associations, AFL-CIO, I am writing to express our opposition to the appointment of Mr. Debo Adegbile for the position of Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Rights Division at the Department of Justice.

There is little need, at this juncture, to recapture events surrounding the cold blooded murder of Philadelphia Police Officer Danny Faulkner in 1981. Through all of the trials and appeals, there has never been any doubt as to the identity of the killer. Officer Faulkner was executed by a taxicab driver, Wesley Cook, on December 9, 1981. Cook later adopted the name Mumia Abdul Jamal and became somewhat of a cause célèbre. Mr. Adegbile's participation in the defense of this cop killer has tainted any notion of justice for all, and an even handedness which Mr. Adegbile would require, to have any credibility within the law enforcement community.

The I.U.P.A. represents nearly 100,000 rank and file, active duty law enforcement professionals across this great nation. We consider ourselves, along with the Department of Justice, to be critical players in the "justice system". There are a number of other groups representing the Law Enforcement Community. We are frequently asked to provide input, endorse or support policies and legislation that impacts our members and their ability to provide for the public safety. I am aware of no law enforcement representatives that were consulted prior to Mr. Adegbile's name being put forward – probably for the very reason of his participation in the circus-like environment surrounding the numerous appeals of Mr. Jamal.

We will remain opposed to Mr. Adegbile's nomination and would urge you to reject his appointment to this critical post.

Very Respectfully,

Sam A. Cabral
International President