

STOP POLICE BRUTALITY IN DURHAM NOW!

Liberty and Justice for Carlos Riley, Jr.!

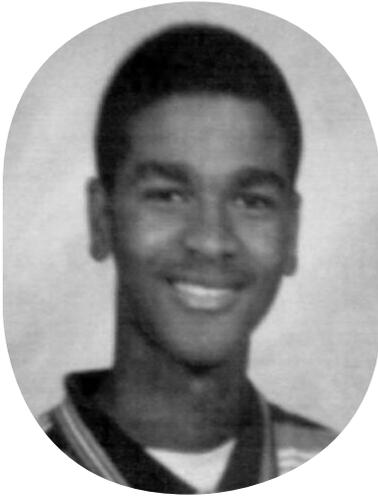
Justice for Stephanie Nickerson!

Open the Books -

Community Control of Police Now!



Struggle heats up against racist frame-ups in N.C.



Carlos Riley, Jr.

On Jan. 10, a big rally took place outside Durham County Jail to free Carlos Riley Jr., an African-American man who is in jail with \$1.5 million bond and nine pending charges, including allegedly shooting a cop who actually shot himself. This comes after weekly rallies every Tuesday in December to drop the charges against Stephanie Nickerson, an African-American woman who was beaten in the face by a Durham cop on Oct. 28.

On the morning of Dec. 18, Carlos Riley Jr., a 21-year-old Durham man, was driving home when stopped by plainclothes Durham police officer Kelly A. Stewart in an unmarked car. After the cop escalated the interaction by yelling expletives at Riley and threatening his life, the officer shot himself in the leg. Riley left the scene, but after a few hours of community lockdown, with cops stopping every car and pedestrian entering the area, frisking many, and helicopters surrounding the neighborhood, he turned himself in to police.

The cops arrested Riley for alleged possession of a stolen firearm and shooting the officer. They also arrested Riley's friend, Dustin Portee, and brother, Ledarius Riley, who were helping to safely escort him, and charged them with "accessory after the fact."

"This type of injustice can happen to anyone, anywhere," Carlos Riley Sr. told Workers World. "We want our son freed and all the charges dropped on him and the other two young brothers immediately."

Riley knew of the high level of police brutality against young Black



Family and Community supporters march in support of Carlos Riley, Jr. in Durham, NC on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr Day.

men and originally fled the situation fearing for his life. A report released July 16, 2012, by the Malcolm X Grassroots Movement indicates that in the first six months of 2012, police, vigilantes and/or security guards killed one Black male every 36 hours in the U.S. Statistics show 120 African-American men were killed between Jan. 1 and June 30, 2012.

Despite requests from the Riley family, the police have still not released information about the police report, which is supposed to state reasons for the stop, medical records and ballistics of the gunshot wound. The organization Liberty and Justice for Carlos Riley Jr. is calling for demonstrations every Thursday at 6pm at the Durham County Jail to bring attention to the case and tell the true story.

Protesters are demanding: **1) Free Carlos Riley Jr. and drop all the charges! 2) Drop all the charges on the young men charged with accessory to his case. 3) Release the police report, medical records and ballistics information now.**

For more information about this case, visit carlosrileyjr.org

Stephanie Nickerson, more attacks



Nickerson's injuries from police beating

On Oct. 28, 25-year-old Stephanie Nickerson was hanging out at a friend's house when Durham police officers illegally entered without a search warrant or asking permission. Nickerson informed her friend about her constitutional right to refuse them entry. The cops attempted to silence Nickerson and grabbed her arm. When she pulled away

and asked if she was under arrest, officer Byran Schnee brutally punched her in the face several times and dropped her to the ground. The assault, witnessed by Nickerson's friends and at least two other officers, resulted in a broken nose, blackened eyes and bruises all over her body, along with mental and emotional trauma. Charged with resisting arrest and assaulting an officer, she has a court appearance on Jan. 24.

Along with family, friends and community supporters, Nickerson rallied in front of the Durham police headquarters weekly demanding that Mayor William Bell, Police Chief Jose Lopez and District Attorney Leon Stanback honor Nickerson's demands for justice by dropping the charges against her, firing Officer Schnee and requiring the Durham Police Department to work with community members to create a civilian review board to address incidents of police brutality and misconduct. The rallies brought about the officer's suspension, but with pay.

Mayor Bell has been campaigning since March 2012 to significantly increase the bond for people charged with committing a crime with a firearm. On Jan. 11, the Durham Crime Board voted to remove magistrates' authority to approve bail. Now people charged with these crimes could linger in jail indefinitely and not be released before trial, which is a violation of their constitutional rights.



Supporters Rallying for Stephanie Nickerson

Police Brutality: a Nationwide Epidemic

The recent murders by cops in Cleveland, Ohio and Jacksonville, Florida continue to make clear that the capitalist crisis is fueling a murderous racist trend against working class Black and Brown people. Nothing symbolizes this more than the murder of Trayvon Martin, who was unarmed and in his father's neighborhood, in 2012 by a racist vigilante. It took a massive nationwide struggle to force police to even begin the process of bringing the perpetrator to justice. This military assault on Black people also includes social, political, and economic oppression. The gentrification of Black communities, massive layoffs of Black workers, the packing of prisons and the attacks on public education, women's rights, labor rights, LGBTQ rights, voting rights and the on the social safety-net ALL must be seen as a class war at home and part of the expanding offensive against the oppressed as the 1%'s "solution" to the global capitalist economic crisis. Additionally, from the federal



government down to local police departments, there is a bipartisan "war on terror" that has been used to justify the invasion and occupation of Iraq and Afghanistan in the wake of 9/11, now spreading throughout the Middle East, North and West Africa and most recently the invasions in Libya and now Mali. Inside the US, this has resulted in many mosques being raided,

countless acts of state sponsored violence against Muslim and Arab people, hundreds being falsely arrested and held, some for years on end without any access to legal help and the creation of a racist anti-Islam atmosphere.

The trend of police violence and terror against all working people, but especially against Black, Latina/o, Arab, Native and Asian youth, LGBTQ people and women will only stop when the community has power and control of the local police.



The demand that the police open their books, and give access to community members to review them can help to start the transition to full community control. There are many community police review boards across the country, including in Durham, but they are often ineffective because they are not given access to all police records and because there is not genuine democratic community control.

The epidemic of police violence, however, will never be stopped under the capitalist system, where the profits of the big banks and corporations are more important than the rights and safety of the people. The role of the police under capitalism is to protect the interests of the wealthy 1% and to protect their property. It is these wealthy 1% who control the legislators, city councilpersons and cops and who set the laws and policies that govern their actions. A truly united movement to attack this system at its root, and build power of the most oppressed is being forged by struggles such as this. Only by the community having direct control of the police and all institutions in our lives such as schools, industry and the media can we begin to transition ourselves out of this rotten, racist capitalist system.

Racial Profiling Facts on the Durham Police

- 1) Black motorists are more than 200% more likely to be searched by law enforcement during routine traffic stops.
- 2) Black suspects are nearly nine times more likely than white suspects to be incarcerated for criminal conduct.
- 3) Blacks are 13.6 times more likely to be designated as habitual felons.
- 4) Blacks arrested for drug crimes are nine times more likely than white suspects to be incarcerated.

Source: <http://www.bpm-law.com/end-racial-profiling-in-durham-now/>

Workers World Party: Who We Are

Workers World Party is a political group with branches all over the country, including in Durham. We have been active in the streets fighting racism, sexism, anti-LGBTQ bigotry and all other forms of hate since our founding in 1959. We believe the only way for the people to truly be free is to get rid of capitalism, which is an exploitative economic system that promotes racism, police brutality, and war. Under capitalism, the rich bankers and corporations only care about their profits, and people's needs are not met. We want to replace capitalism with socialism, a society where people's needs, like healthcare, housing, jobs, and education are made the first priority, not corporate greed.



We host public forums on community issues, and lead monthly public classes on Marxism, socialism and how to beat capitalism!

Upcoming Classes and Forums:

Feb. 10th: Dialectical Materialism: Marxist analysis of society

March 4th: Forum of Women Leaders in India, Int'l Women's Day

March 10th: Racism, Self-Determination, & the National Question

May 5th: The State - Oppressive Role of Police in Society



Get in touch with us!

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