

# **The People's Tribunal on Police Brutality**

12-4 pm, Saturday, April 11, 2015

Room 201, Main Classroom Bldg., Cleveland State University  
Cleveland, Ohio

## **Introducing the Panelists:**



**Cephus "Uncle Bobby" Johnson** is the Uncle of Oscar Grant. He is a community activist, social justice advocate, and community organizer. He was the founder of the Oscar Grant Foundation in 2010, and in July of 2014 he transferred leadership to Oscar Grant's mother, Wanda Johnson.

As a continuation of his work in the Oscar Grant Foundation, he co-founded the Love Not Blood Campaign in July 2014. The Love Not Blood Campaign is a grassroots, community advocacy organization for families of victims of police brutality, mass incarceration, and community violence.

Uncle Bobby has been a resource for families, such as those of Ramarley Graham, Trayvon Martin, Jordan Davis, Alan Blueford, Michael Brown, and many, many more across this country. His advocacy work within the Bay Area community put the 1st Police Officer in California State history in jail.

Uncle Bobby was a key consultant in the production of the critically-acclaimed movie, "Fruitvale Station".

<https://twitter.com/lovenotblood1>

<http://www.lovenotbloodcampaign.com/>

<https://twitter.com/cephusjohnson?lang=en>

<https://www.facebook.com/lovenotbloodcampaign.org>

**Ed McKinney**, Professor emeritus, was on the faculty of the School of Social Work at Cleveland State University from 1981 to 2012.

Dr. McKinney has contributed globally as an educator and scholar as a Fulbright professor in Botswana and Kenya. He was invited back to Botswana during the academic year 2008-2009 as a Senior Scholar in Residence, in the Department of Social Work. It was during this academic year that his current research, “Africa’s Response to a Growing Older Population: A Policy Perspective,” was conceptualized while teaching an aging seminar class.

Dr. McKinney has and continues to participate in a number of community organizations covering all age groups, many related specifically to the older population, such as, Cuyahoga County Department of Senior and Adult Services, Western Reserve Area Agency Aging, and COOP (Council of Older Persons).



**Leah C.K. Lewis, J.D., M.Div.**, is a minister, councilwoman, and writer with a history in social justice advocacy and community organizing. Follow her on Twitter @HumanStriving and on SoundCloud.com/Reverend-Leah-CK-Lewis.



**Genevieve Mitchell** is a public servant, community activist, social justice advocate and organizer. Mitchell is director of the Black Women's Center, a grassroots, community organization for Black women and families. She is author of the little book, *Africa: Messages to Black Women* (1992), Associate Producer of The Carl Stokes Forum (a cable TV broadcast), writes and publishes the Blackboard newsletter and the Brigade publication. Email: [the\\_blackboard@yahoo.com](mailto:the_blackboard@yahoo.com)



**Edward Little** is a public policy professional with 14 years of knowledge and experience. He is passionate about criminal justice policy reform, and bringing an end to the over- criminalization of communities of color.

Mr. Little has worked successfully to reverse long-standing racially disparate policies. He worked with other civil and human rights leaders to bring an end to a 23-year-old policy that unfairly saddled approximately 35,000 African American Cleveland residents with felony convictions for drug possession, instead of a misdemeanor for possession of drug paraphernalia.

Mr. Little is dedicated to being a strong advocate for change in communities of color that are negatively impacted by discriminatory policing policies and practices, as well as being a powerful voice for lasting reform long after the consent decree has been signed, executed and the DOJ has completed their work.



**Bill Swain** writes for and distributes Revolution newspaper, voice of the Revolutionary Communist Party, USA (RCP). He has been a revolutionary activist for decades, part of the movement to stop U.S. wars of aggression, to stop patriarchy, to stop attacks on immigrants, to stop the destruction of the environment and more. Bill organized days of protest with October 22 Coalition to Stop Police Brutality, Repression and the Criminalization of a Generation since its founding in 1996. For decades he has stood with families of victims of police murder and abuse to say NO MORE! Over the past few years, he has helped in the campaign to get Bob Avakian (Chairman of the RCP) and his new synthesis of communism out far and wide for people to check out and dig into. Bill is working now on having a massive outpouring of "NO BUSINESS AS USUAL" resistance on April 14<sup>th</sup> to stop police killing of black and brown people.



**Shemariah Arki** is an experienced education professional. She currently serves as co-founder of Excellence Management Group, a consultancy that helps clients achieve operational excellence. As a doctoral candidate in the College of Professional Studies at Northeastern University, her dissertation focuses on teacher preparation in the wake of #blacklivesmatter. Shemariah is a mom of two boys, Solomon and Malcolm, and enjoys being the team mom for football, basketball, and soccer.

## Introducing the MC:



**Alice Ragland** is an organizer with the Ohio Student Association and Puncture the Silence. She is passionate about ending the criminalization of people of color and challenging the dominant narrative that works to justify human rights violations against people of color. A two-time graduate of Ohio University, she has a Bachelor's Degree in Creative Writing & Journalism and a M.Ed. in Critical Studies in Education, with an emphasis on racial, gender and class inequality in the U.S. educational system. She has led cultural competency and anti-oppression workshops for students, and she plans to create more programs for youth based on personal identity development, environmental stewardship, and activism. When Alice is not working, you might catch her playing her flute in a jam session, performing her poetry, or spending time with her friends and family.