

**An Injury to One is an Injury to All.**  
**Free Mumia Abu-Jamal!**  
*The Partisan Defense Committee*

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**T**he Partisan Defense Committee (PDC) is a class struggle, non-sectarian legal and social defense organization that champions cases and causes in the interest of the whole of the working people. This purpose is in accordance with the political views of the Marxist Spartacist League. For the past 18 years the Partisan Defense Committee has been centrally involved in the fight to free Mumia Abu-Jamal, a former Black Panther Party spokesman, supporter of the Philadelphia MOVE organization and award-winning journalist.

In 1982 Mumia was framed up on charges of killing Philadelphia police officer Daniel Faulkner and sentenced to death for his political views and activities. We have emphasized that this is a political frame up of an innocent man; a death penalty case which illustrates the racism endemic in this country in its cruelest, most vicious form and lays bare the essence of the capitalist state — armed bodies of men to protect the profits, property and rule of the capitalist class. Beginning in 1989 we held rallies in cities across the country and internationally and succeeded in getting other forces to take up his case.

The fight to free Mumia has now reached a crucial juncture. In December, 2005, the federal appeals court put Mumia's case on a "fast track" for decision. In a short time, even as soon as six months, the court could decide what is next for Mumia: death, life in prison or more legal proceedings. In nearly two decades of appeals, each and every court has rejected the reams of documented evidence of the blatant frame-up. For over four years, Pennsylvania state as well as federal courts have refused to even consider the sworn confession of Arnold Beverly that he, not Mumia, shot and killed the police officer for which Mumia was falsely convicted. The fight for Mumia's freedom is urgently posed. While we are for pursuing every legal avenue in Mumia's behalf, we put no faith in the "justice" of the capitalist courts. We struggle to mobilize the broadest social forces, centered on the labor movement, to demand Mumia's freedom and the abolition of the racist death penalty.

Reviving a tradition of the International Labor Defense in 1986, the PDC initiated a stipend program for class-war prisoners. We currently provide monthly stipends to sixteen class-war prisoners, among them Mumia, members of the Philadelphia MOVE organization, Black Panther

supporters David Rice and Mondo we Langa, anti-imperialist fighters Jaan Laaman and Tom Manning and prison activist Hugo Pinell. Since initiating the stipend program, we have provided support to more than 35 prisoners across three continents.

The PDC is partisan: we stand unconditionally on the side of working people and their allies in struggle against their exploiters and oppressors. Initiated in 1974, the PDC cut its teeth organizing successful international defense campaigns for Latin American leftists. We launched fund-raising campaigns for striking British miners in the mid 1980s as well as for the people of the Afghan city of Jalalabad when it was besieged by CIA-backed Islamic reactionaries in 1989. We have initiated mass labor/black mobilizations to stop the KKK from marching in cities across the country, including the 10,000-strong mobilization in New York City in 1999. In Oakland in 2002, the PDC and the Labor Black League for Social Defense initiated a united-front demonstration centered on the powerful longshore union in defense of immigrants and in opposition to the Patriot and Maritime Security acts. This past September we also held rallies in defense of death row political prisoner Mumia Abu-Jamal, leftist attorney Lynn Stewart, framed up on bogus “support to terrorism” charges and Assatta Shakur, the courageous Black Panther leader framed on charges killing a New Jersey state trooper and now in exile in Cuba. An injury to one is an injury to all. Free Mumia now! Abolish the racist death penalty! Free all class-war prisoners!

Contact the Partisan Defense Committee at P.O. Box 99, Canal Street Station, New York, New York, 10013, ph. 1-212-4064252, [partisandefense@earthlink.net](mailto:partisandefense@earthlink.net).