



## Swedish Dockworkers Union

Gothenburg 8-21-2018

Dear District Attorney Krasner:

Mumia Abu-Jamal is perhaps the most prominent political prisoner in the United States of America. His case has been raised and defended by the late Nelson Mandela, the European Parliament, leading Members of Parliament of the British Labour Party, Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch and the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund.

Furthermore, for over 20 years Mr. Abu-Jamal, a former member of the Black Panther Party, a MOVE supporter, author, and past president of the Philadelphia Association of Black Journalists, falsely accused of killing a police officer, has been known worldwide for standing in solidarity, while he was on death row, with workers in struggle. An international trade union campaign was waged that helped win a life-saving medication for him and potentially for some 700,000 hepatitis C-infected prisoners in the United States.

This campaign that fervently continues to demand his freedom includes Britain's largest union the 1.4 million member UNITE, the International Dockworkers Council (IDC) representing over 100,000 dock workers in ports around the globe, Doro-Chiba, the Japanese railway union and the American union, the International Longshore and Warehouse Union (ILWU). The National Union of Metalworkers of South Africa, the largest union in South Africa, the 338,000 strong union sent a powerful protest letter to Pennsylvania Governor Tom Wolf stating: "The refusal of health-care reminds us of the conditions we were put in under Apartheid prisons where sick detainees were allowed to die in very deplorable lonely conditions in solitary as part of the punishment for their role in the struggle."

It is inconceivable to us that former Philadelphia District Attorney and later Pennsylvania Supreme Court judge Ronald Castille could not have been personally involved in the prosecution of a black man convicted of killing a police officer. His predilection in favor of the police and bias against black jurors has been well known. Mr. Castille's involvement in Mr. Abu-Jamal's appeals clearly upholds the U.S. Supreme Court's criteria in Williams vs Pennsylvania thereby denied him his right to a fair appeal. Our union, the Swedish Dockworkers Union, demands the release of all police and prosecutorial files relating to Me. Abu-Jamal's case by your Philadelphia District Attorney's office with all deliberate speed and moreover demands the immediate release of Mr. Abu-Jamal who has been imprisoned for 37 years for a crime which he did not commit.

The world will be watching your decision on August 30, 2018. Will America continue Mr. Abu-Jamal's unjust imprisonment, seen by the world as part and parcel of the racist oppression in your country by government authorities inside prisons and outside prisons by a reign of police and fascist terror. The trade union movement worldwide has stated this racist repression must stop.

Sincerely,

Eskil Rönér

President

Swedish Dockworkers Union