



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Thursday, November 30th, 2018

Contact: Markasa Tucker, Director of the African American Civic-Engagement Roundtable,
414-699-5195, Markasa@WisconsinVoices.org

The African American Roundtable Demands Indictments of the Milwaukee Police Officers Involved in the Shooting of Jerry Smith, Jr.

Milwaukee, WI- The African American Roundtable is calling for an indictment of Milwaukee Police Department Officers Adam Stahl and Melvin Finkley in the shooting of unarmed Jerry Smith Jr., on August 31st, 2017.

Recently released body-worn camera footage shows excessive use of force employed by Officers Stahl and Finkley, who fired shots at Smith, causing partial paralysis. The video footage contradicts Chief Deputy District Attorney Kent Lovern's June 2018 conclusion that the officer's actions were justified because they believed Smith was armed and posed a threat. Smith was unarmed and stood with his hands in the air when he was shot by the officers.

Markasa Tucker, Director of the African American Roundtable, says "Stahl and Finkley's actions were examples of ongoing misconduct practices of the Department. Failure to indict these officers, despite video evidence, highlight corruption within the Department as well as in the justice system. The city missed the opportunity for justice in its failure to indict Christopher Manney in the death of Dontre Hamilton. Milwaukee cannot afford to miss another opportunity for justice to be served."

Co-signed by:
African American Roundtable
Black Lives Matter to Wisconsin Unitarian Universalists

Coalition for Justice
Community Task Force MKE
Hmong American Women's Association
Priceless Incite
SURJ MKE
UBLAC Milwaukee
Voces de la Frontera
Amanda Avalos
Camille Mays
Danielle McClendon-Williams
Desiree Brown
Fidel Verdin
Maria Hamilton
Nate Hamilton
Pastor Walter Lanier, Progressive Baptist Church
Peace Garden Project MKE
Shalina S. Ali
Shauntay Nelson
Shaun Wanzo
Stephanie Rodes
William Muhammad

African American Roundtable unifies a network of powerful partners in Milwaukee around achieving shared goals to build a thriving community through civic engagement. We collaborate and support each other to demonstrate people power to amplify the voices of our community to nurture leadership, promote racial equity and accessibility, relationships, and transparent policies that will radically change the lives of African Americans.

###