

For Unions and Black and Brown Communities
Standing With the Family of Kenneth Harding Jr.

Shut Down the MUNI Lines! July 16, 2012

Two weeks ago, 15-year-old Derrick Gaines was murdered by the South San Francisco Police for “behaving suspiciously” at a gas station. Less than a year earlier, on July 16, 2011 the San Francisco Police murdered young Kenneth Harding Jr.: shooting him in the back and leaving him to die on the pavement because he was riding the MUNI’s “T” line, seemingly not paying his fare. Apparently fare evasion is a capital offense -- yet, because MUNI policy is so contradictory and disorganized, that in many areas, especially poor neighborhoods, there is no mechanism to pay fare or buy a ticket before boarding!

Adding insult to injury, soon after Harding was killed, the police in Seattle, hundreds of miles away, sent an entire assault-rifle-armed SWAT team to break down the door of Harding’s mother, Ms Denika Chatman, ransack her apartment without a warrant, and arrested her other son! The cops’ much bragged about “nationwide law enforcement cooperation” is nothing but a nationwide system of cover-ups, orchestrated intimidation and threats. With Ms Chatman’s safety in question, we appreciate the Nation of Islam’s effort to protect her and help her relocate so she can pursue Justice for Kenneth Harding Jr.

Gaines and Harding are only the latest in the long list of innocent victims who have lost their lives to the ongoing campaign of police terror against Black and Brown youth: Oscar Grant, James Rivera, Raheim Brown and many others. Our mothers, nationwide, are hurting--and poised to build a nationwide “Mothers Movement” against the murder of more of our sons. We welcome and look forward to this important development. Families brought together by tragic circumstances are uniting, to seek justice. The mothers, families, and anti-police brutality organizations are reaching out to the growing numbers of victimized families. In the words of Carey Downs, James Rivera’s stepfather: “After my son got killed, they are still killing people in the community. We are not going to just sit here and watch them do that without saying something about it. It’s personal, and we are here to stay and we are going to keep on fighting, not just for our son, but for everybody else.”

Kenneth Harding Jr.’s family has called for a July 16, 2012 San Francisco MUNI Shutdown!

Ad Hoc Committee for a MUNI Shut Down, July 16 support this call now, because we have to stop police killings --NOW!

Four Days of Action for Kenneth Harding Jr. :

Friday July 13th Community Speak out -- 7pm at Muhammad’s Mosque 26 -- 1709 Revere Ave. San Francisco, 94124
Saturday July 14th Free Community Hip Hop Show @ San Francisco City College -- details TBA
Sunday July 15th Regular Community Feed @ 3rd and Palou -- 10am to 2pm

Monday, July 16th -- Kenneth Harding Jr. Transit Shutdown Day -- Community-Labor-Black-Brown Action to Shut Down MUNI at **3rd & Palou**. Details TBA: [facebook.com/laborblackbrown](https://www.facebook.com/laborblackbrown) Twitter **#MuniShutdown**

Kenneth was killed by the S.F. police to protect MUNI bosses’ “savings” on the backs of the workers. This greed takes the form of attacks on the MUNI workers and compromising safety which endangers MUNI riders as well as the union drivers. MUNI has been attacking workers and whistle-blowers like MUNI driver **Dorian Maxwell**, who helped organize worker and union resistance to such attacks. Workers like Oakland Paramedic **Sean Gillis**, who blew the whistle on Oscar Grants medical mistreatment on the Fruitvale BART platform are victimized. Community leaders like **Fly Benzo** and others are banned from the community by injunctions, in the attempt to remove our grass roots organizers and fighters. **Defend our working class and community fighters!**

To protect ourselves from the plague of police violence, the Black and Brown communities need mass workers actions to build solidarity, with the aim of organizing labor, Black and Brown defense guards and an indefinite general strike. Independent self-organization is a must! We want the Brown and Black communities and those workers still employed talking, strategizing and building defense guards, mobile pickets and worker’s councils to defend our neighborhoods and our youth against the gangsters in uniform. We need working class, Black and Brown united fronts that will be for the effective mobilization of our fighting forces against the police and this capitalist system of profit and racism that the police protect.

Shut Down Muni on July 16 In Memory and Honor of Kenneth Harding Jr., And All Victims of Police Murder!

Organize Working Class, Black and Brown Defense Guards Against Police Brutality!

Labor, Black and Brown -- Drive the Cops Out of Town!

Down with Union-Busting Prop. G!

Down With “Stop and Frisk”!

Free MUNI For All Youth

Build a Movement for an Indefinite General Strike, Against the Attacks on the Unions and the Brown and Black Communities!