

The Gandhian Forum *for Peace & Justice*William Paterson University

presents

Jason D. Williamson

Staff Attorney – Criminal Law Reform Project American Civil Liberties Union speaking on

The Police

Communities of Color

Assessing the Realities of Policing in the U.S. and Strategies for Lasting Reform

Thursday, October 16, 2014, 11:00-12:15 pm

Ballroom B, University Commons, William Paterson University

300 Pompton Road, Wayne, NJ, 07470. Directions: http://www.wpunj.edu/directories/directions-and-map.dot

Michael Brown, unarmed and shot to death by a police officer in Ferguson, Missouri. Eric Garner died after being put into a chokehold by New York City police officers. The long list goes on, from Anthony Baez to Amadou Diallo to Sean Bell. And then there are the countless cases of police brutality, from Rodney King to Abner Louima. In New York City, since 2002, there have been more than 5 million police stop-and-frisks, overwhelmingly of Black and Latino individuals and nearly 9 out of 10 of them completely innocent. Across the United States, neighborhoods are increasingly being policed by officers armed with the weapons and tactics of war.

What's going on here? And what can we do about it? What strategies can we use for reforming policing in communities of color? We are pleased to have Jason D. Williamson, a staff attorney with the Criminal Law Reform Project of the American Civil Liberties Union, to discuss these issues with us.





Prior to joining the ACLU, Williamson served as a litigation associate at the law firm of Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP in New York and began his legal career in New Orleans, first as a staff attorney for the Juvenile Justice Project of Louisiana and later as a defense attorney and founding member of Juvenile Regional Services.

Williamson received his J.D. from New York University School of Law and his Bachelor's degree from Harvard University.

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