



INTERNATIONAL UNION OF POLICE ASSOCIATIONS AFL-CIO

THE ONLY UNION FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

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Statement of President Sam Cabral

On the appointment of Debo Adegbile to the U.S. Commission of Civil Rights

Late Thursday night, it was announced that President Obama has appointed Mr. Adegbile to the U.S. Commission of Civil Rights. We view this appointment as a slap in the face to every law enforcement officer in this great nation.

In 2014, the then Democratic led Senate robustly rejected Adegbile's appointment to the Justice Department's Civil Rights Commission as they shared our association's opinion that he had, by his actions, demonstrated that he was unfit to serve.

35 years ago, Officer Danny Faulkner was executed by a cab driver, Wesley Cook. Cook was convicted and his conviction has been upheld through numerous appeals. Cook later adopted the name Mumia Abdul Jamal and became somewhat of a cause célèbre. One of the lead attorneys in the case was Mr. Adegbile who spread lies, spouted racism and maligned the Philadelphia police in his failed efforts to overcome justice and portray this vicious murderer as, somehow, the victim.

President Obama has, once again, gone out of his way to demonstrate his utter disdain for our nation's law enforcement officers. Whether his meeting with the very people who call for the death of America's cops or his, soon to be rescinded, Executive Order limiting their equipment, he has very clearly aligned himself with those who view our police forces as the enemy of the people and has given voice to those who wish us harm. He has also denigrated the credibility of the Civil Rights Commission and may well have provided sufficient motivation for Congress to re-evaluate its continued existence.