



The Peoples Rally & March for Justice: Justice Denied To One is Justice Denied to All

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: justiceforjosiahlawson@gmail.com

Communities of color in Humboldt County take the lead on Martin Luther King Day Commemoration by calling for a justice march on January 21 to highlight local issues of racism and injustice.

On **January 21, 2019, at 10am, at the Humboldt County Courthouse**, hundreds of Humboldt residents are expected to participate in The Peoples Rally & March for Justice to remember Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and remind the community that racism and other injustices still exist in our County. The organizers give special thanks to the Wiyot Tribal Council for their support of this event, which will take place on Wiyot ancestral land.

“Local law enforcement allowed my son to bleed to death after being stabbed 20 months ago, and the County District Attorney has still not prioritized our case for prosecution, because, I believe, Josiah was Black,” states Charmaine Lawson, mother of murdered HSU student Josiah Lawson.

Humboldt County recently expressed support for marginalized communities by voting in support of the County Sanctuary Law and the ballot initiative removing the McKinley statue in Arcata. This march is a continuation of that struggle for equity and inclusivity.

According to the march organizers, which include Justice for Josiah, Centro del Pueblo, Seventh Generation Fund for Indigenous Peoples and the Eureka NAACP, all are welcome and encouraged to attend the march, which will begin with speakers of various communities and end at the Adorni Center for the NAACP’s yearly MLK Commemoration at noon.

States Charmaine Lawson: “The best way for us to honor Dr. King and his legacy is to have the courage to come together, build coalitions, and work towards the tenets of the Poor Peoples Campaign. People of color, Indigenous Peoples, Immigrants, Women, LGBTQ, religious minorities and other oppressed communities in Humboldt County deserve to flourish and live in peace.”

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