

From the Desk of Prison Radio

WHEN WE FIGHT WE WIN!

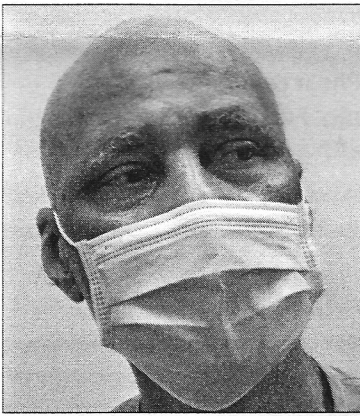
August 15, 2022

Dear Friend:

It always gets more difficult when freedom is at hand. Always. We are standing on the precipice. The work is thrilling and overwhelming. Taut with hope and desperation.

Bringing Marvin Pete Walker, Jr. Home!

Practically every day I speak with Marvin Pete Walker Jr. (Shaka) on the phone. Mark my words, after four decades on California's death row, Shaka will be free. His next hearing is on September 12th.



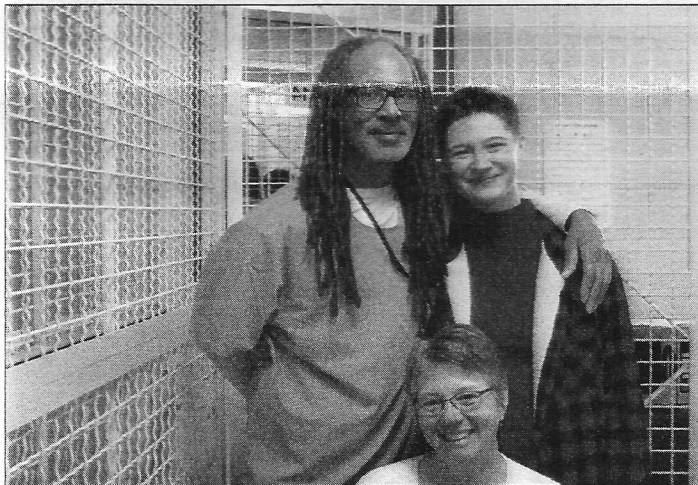
San Quentin State Prison. In the past three months, Shaka has suffered 2 heart attacks and as yet undiagnosed stroke symptoms. In July 2020, he was hospitalized with COVID.

This case requires my critical attention. At 19, Shaka was arrested and then tried by an all-white jury. His first trial had the entire racist prosecution playbook.

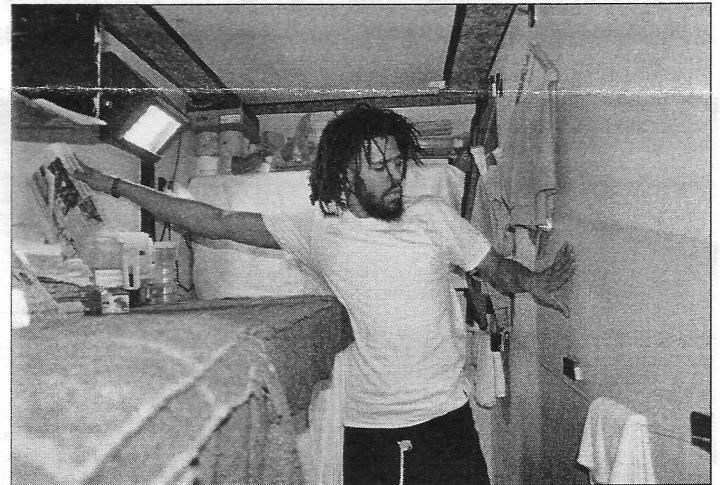
- Shackled in front of the jury
- Police offered a deal to a jailhouse informant who recanted
- All-white jury, African-Americans removed
- Witness identification grossly tainted
- Prison and court records list false arrest

Good lord.

I am one of Shaka's lawyers, along with local co-counsel Nolan Barton & Olmos. We cannot bring him home alone, even with an army of lawyers. It will take all of us to make this a reality. Honestly, your company is critical. Join us. We are raising \$75K. Please make a gift to Shaka's re-entry or retrial fund. bit.ly/FreeShaka



Marvin "Shaka" Pete Walker Jr. (standing, left) with Miranda Hanrahan-Beach (standing, right) and Jennifer Beach (seated), at San Quentin Visiting Room.



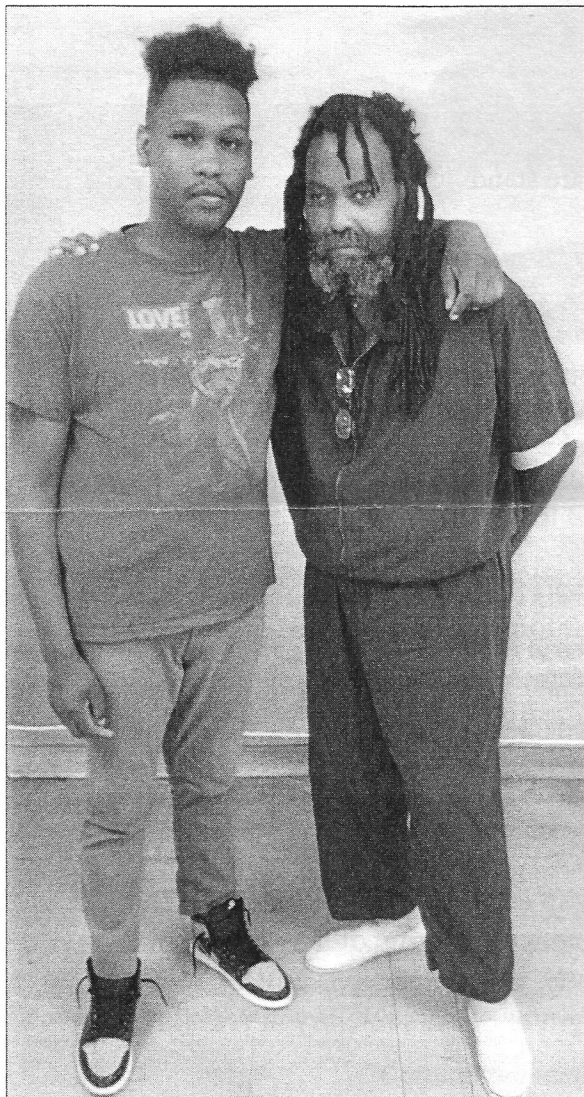
For eleven years Shaka has not left his cell, high up on the fifth tier on San Quentin's East Block. This is J Cole demonstrating the space limitations.

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“What do they want? For me to have triple bypass?”

Mumia Abu-Jamal



Prison Radio staff member Jamal Jr. and his grandfather Mumia Abu-Jamal

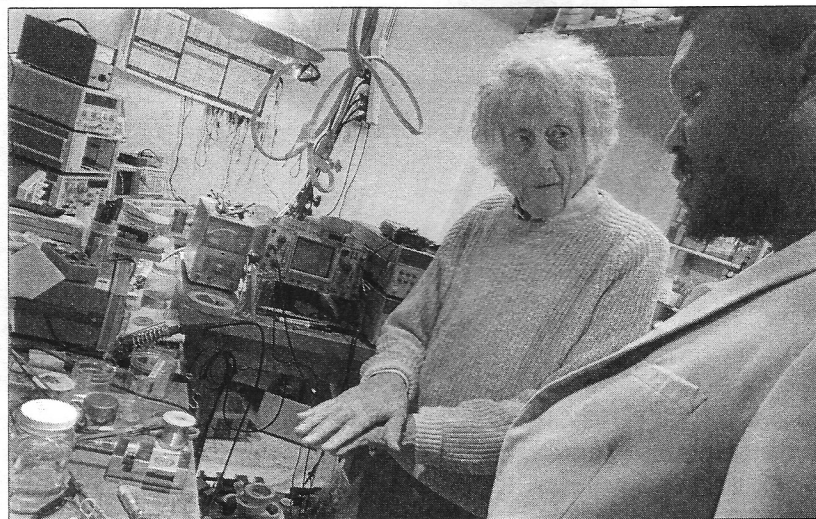


Noelle Hanrahan, Esq., Mumia Abu-Jamal, and Mike Africa Jr. at SCI Mahanoy discussing the Love Not Phear campaign

Mumia is getting closer to relief but the last lap to freedom is harrowing. I drive Route 309 past Allentown to see Mumia Abu-Jamal at SCI Mahanoy in Frackville, PA, every other week.

Imagine Kafka on steroids. On this visit, at least, there are no snarling drug dogs circling my pockets for dog biscuit crumbs. Today, it was banal oppression. We were on a legal visit — in an open room, with a recording camera and microphone just above our heads. An affront to the Sixth Amendment right to counsel. Stocked full is a machine at the back of the room. Aquafina water on every shelf, behind a sign reading “Out of Order. Use the next one”. When you try “the next one,” it flashes “Sold Out”. No water fountain. No food, except a few pork hoagies, which no Muslim can eat and which are deadly for an aging population fighting heart disease.

The round trip from Philadelphia to SCI Mahanoy is 220 miles, a four-hour drive. It has been extremely difficult for Jamal Jr., Mumia’s grandson to visit. We just had to have a working car. So Dolly Pomerleau loaned us her stalwart Toyota for three months. A donor gave us money for a car allowance! And now, Rod Holt has promised us his vintage (only 60K miles) Audi A4 — just a few fixes and we will be back on the road. Thank you all!



Jamal Jr. visits with Rod Holt (Apple employee number 5) in his home workshop. Here, he is explaining the circuit board he just soldered.

The cavernous room is practically empty of regular visitors; the online portal makes it difficult to schedule a visit. Only 9 men have visits today. Stretching and standing is frowned upon — god forbid you want to get up and walk around.

I know Mumia had to endure a full cavity strip search before and after every visit. I know he is in his cell 21 hours a day with just seven steps from the front to the back of the cell. His diet of processed food, with no fresh vegetables or fruit, is a violation of the 8th Amendment and ADA guidelines. After undergoing double bypass surgery in March of 2021, Mumia has a life expectancy of 5 years. We are there with Mumia exhausting administrative remedies, filing Right To Know Requests, documenting nutrition required for cardiac health.

We continue. We plan, strategize, and we will get healthy food and realize freedom.

Mumia Abu-Jamal back in Court October 19, 2022

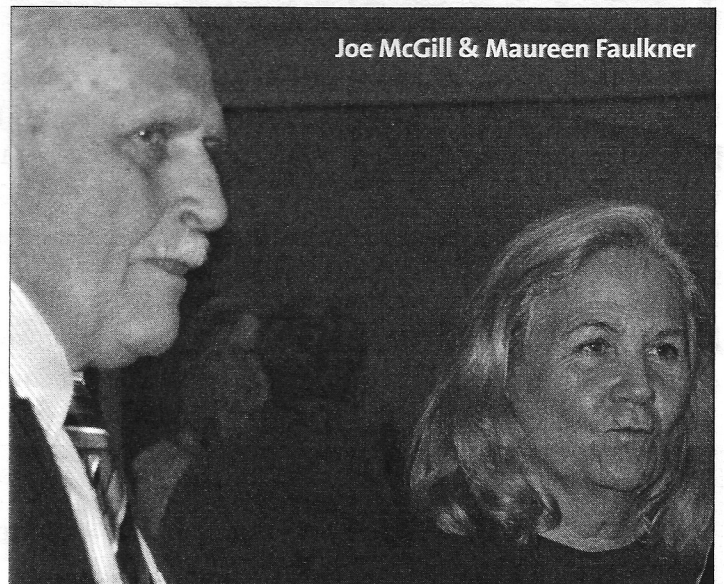
For 42 years, Mumia has appealed for a new trial in the 1981 shooting death of Philadelphia Police officer Daniel Faulkner. The current delays are a tactic designed to prevent justice and delay accountability.

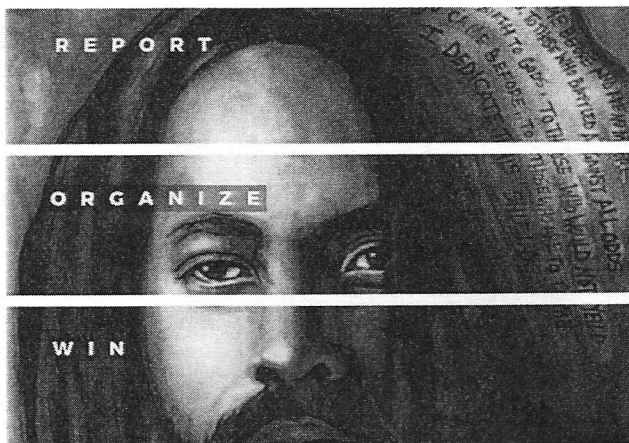
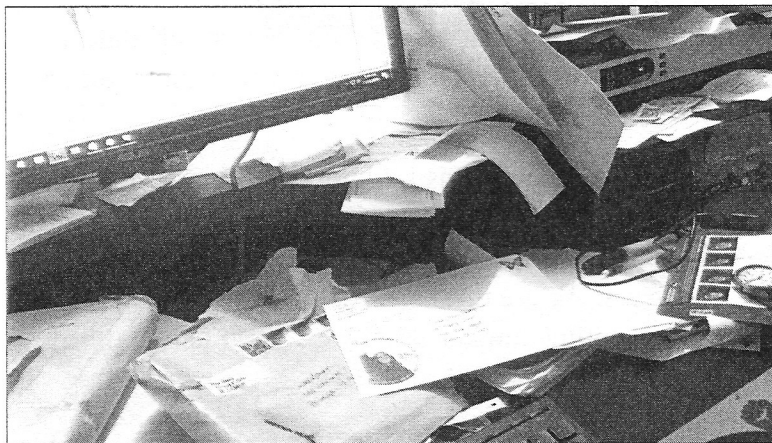
At the Common Pleas Court hearing on June 29th, Judge Lucretia Clemons took the District Attorney's answer and denial of relief to Mumia's petition under advisement. Mumia's attorneys Samuel Spital, Judith Ritter, and Bret Grote, were given 45 days to file a reply. Judge Clemens will issue her opinion on or before October 19, the next hearing date. The DA spent most of their opposition brief arguing procedural time bars and that the issues had been previously litigated.

Fighting to keep Mumia in prison is all about limiting exposure. It is all about preserving the fiction that decades of mass incarceration prosecuted by former Philadelphia police chief and mayor Frank Rizzo and former governor of Pennsylvania Ed Rendell are not tainted by police and prosecutorial misconduct. The goal is to prevent the white hot spotlight on Philadelphia's long and sordid racist history. Everyone knows that Mumia's judge Albert "I am going to help them fry the N-word" Sabo is a stone-cold racist. Sitting Philadelphia Common Pleas court homicide judge Barbara McDermott told me, "Sabo is the most racist, sexist, and homophobic jurist I have ever met."

The question is will the court order an evidentiary hearing; in fact, they should simply order a new trial.

This moment must be met with immediate and strategic action. The Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) have promised to try to intervene and delay any new court hearing. They have been emboldened by the Pennsylvania





Supreme Court, which heard their frivolous Kings Bench Petition. This is deeply troubling because Maureen Faulkner, while speaking at the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 5 recently told me “*We know we cannot win. We know that Mumia will be free. We just want to delay Mumia’s release as long as possible.*”

We are poised to help the world hear this critical information. We rely on you. We just do. To keep us traveling to the prison and the phones on. You are a critical part of that small circle.

We need you to help make these freedom dreams a reality. Can you give the largest amount you have ever given us? If not that, can you give double what you gave last year? Can you donate a building? Stock? We are so close. Your gift will help us make our next strategic, crucial, step.

Today, I have to buy two flexible, coast-to-coast plane tickets for \$2,500. Dead of summer plane prices. I have to make the hearings. We are spending close to \$4K a month on staying in touch with our correspondents: visits, gas, tolls, plane tickets, broadcasting dispatches from inside. We need \$75,000 for the next phase of Shaka’s release plan. We need \$2K a month for office and archives space in Philadelphia. Big movie in the works. New book. New trials. Survival. We just got a car to get to prison but we need gas money.

We are in the final home stretch to freedom, and yes abolition. Please join us.

*Cuando luchamos ganamos,
When We Fight, We Win*

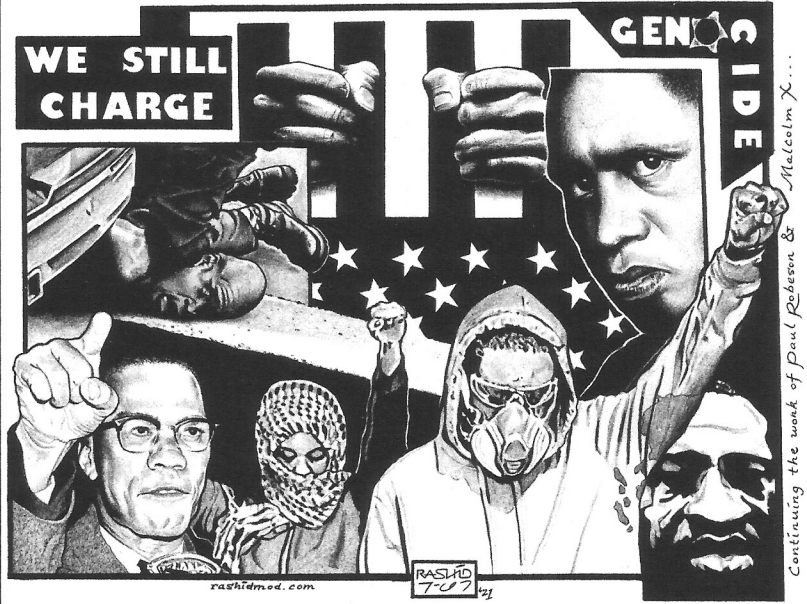
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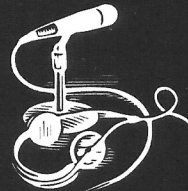
P.S. It has been extremely difficult and has taken a lot of time for Jamal Jr. (Mumia’s grandson) to get to the prison without a car. We just had to have a working car and we have made a commitment to make sure he can visit. That is just not all that easy, honestly. The trip is 220 miles roundtrip and four hours by car. The 1997 Ford Ranger (no air conditioning, no radio, no airbag) is god awful but, yes, that truck is still a blessing. I am just not sure it has many trips left.

P.S. Please reach out to Kevin Rashid Johnson, as we were going to press we heard of his health crisis. An amazing artist and intellectual. Visit rashidmod.com

Prison Radio is a project of the Redwood Justice Fund (RJF) which is a California 501(c)(3) (California tax ID no. 680334309) not-for-profit foundation dedicated to the defense of the environment and of civil and human rights secured by law. For more information on how to give, and planned giving, contact Noelle Hanrahan at 415-706-5222. Visit prisonradio.org. Subscribe to our podcasts and social media platforms.



**We still charge
genocide
Continuing the work
of Paul Robeson
and Malcolm X**



prisonradio.org

Dear Rashid,

I am so sorry to hear of your cancer diagnosis. Please take heart and remember that you do not stand alone. You have friends and comrades outside who are demanding that you receive medical treatment. Your love and solidarity is evident in all of your work. We stand with you as you fight to live and for freedom for all of us.

SIGNED

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1st Class
Stamp

Kevin 'Rashid' Johnson
#1007485
Nottoway CC
2892 Schutt Rd
Burkeville, VA 23922

**Healthcare
is a human right**



© KEVIN RASHID JOHNSON

1st Class
Stamp

Harold W. Clarke
Director, VADOC
P.O. Box 26963
Richmond, VA 23261

Dear Harold,
Kevin Johnson, #1007485, housed at Nottoway CC has prostate cancer. Tests he took in October and November 2021 indicated that diagnosis, but no biopsy was performed until April. The results were not reported to him until July.

The Virginia Department of Corrections has failed to provide minimal healthcare. Mr. Johnson's supporters are concerned about the long delays in diagnosis. The 8th Amendment and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requires you to provide thorough and immediate treatment and care.



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SIGNED

