

National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives



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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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The National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE) Issues Statement on the Conviction of Chicago Police Officer Jason Van Dyke

[Alexandria, VA] The National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE) affirms the conviction of Chicago Police Officer, Jason Van Dyke. Today, Van Dyke was found guilty of 2nd degree murder and convicted of 16 counts of aggravated assault with a firearm in the 2014 shooting of Laquan McDonald.

"Nearly four years after the fatal shooting of 17-year old Laquan McDonald, the city of Chicago and the rest of the nation waited in anticipation for a verdict in the high profile murder trial. As NOBLE continues to advance community and police relations across the nation, it is paramount that community trust is always at the forefront," stated Vera Bumpers, NOBLE National President.

For many in Chicago and across the nation, today's verdict was a sign of accountability they thought was not possible. Communities are demanding change and law enforcement officials hear them.

In the months before the trial, community activists held meetings to discuss reactions to both an acquittal and conviction in hopes of diminishing community unrests across Chicago. The teen's death was unnoticed until a judge ordered the official release of the police dashcam video in November 2015.

We hope that the family of Laquan McDonald is able to take some solace in the measure of justice delivered by today's verdict.

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About the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives

Since 1976, The National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE) has served as the conscience of law enforcement by being committed to justice by action. NOBLE represents over 3,000 members internationally, who are primarily African-American chief executive officers of law enforcement agencies at federal, state, county and

municipal levels, other law enforcement administrators, and criminal justice practitioners. For more information, visit <http://www.noblenational.org>.

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