

DRAW THE LINE

In May we witnessed the Black mayor of Philadelphia take responsibility for the bombing of a house in Philly and the ensuing fire in which 11 people (four of them children) were killed and 60 homes destroyed. Over the past 15 years, we have witnessed significant increases in the number of Black elected officials. It is often said, and some of us signing this statement do in fact believe, that such increases represent advances in the struggle of Black people. But *all* of us agree on this basic truth:

The following are the preliminary signatories of the statement, *Draw The Line*:

- Hodari Ali**
Pyramid Bookstore, Washington, D.C.
- Koome K. Afob**
Vice President
Provisional Government
Republic of New Africa
- Aki Al-Jamali**
Africa Reelion Organizing Comm.:
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- Rev. Charles Adams**
Hortford Memorial Baptist Church, Detroit
- B.J. Ashanti**
Poet, New York
- Safiya Bantule**
Madgar Evers College, Center for
Women's Development*
- James & Grace Lee Boggs**
Revolutionary activists & historians, Detroit
- Lester Bowie**
A.E.C., jazz musician
- Walter Brooks**
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- Walter Brown**
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- Rev. Benjamin Chavis**
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Honor College, New York City
- Carl Dix**
Revolutionary Communist Party
- Angela Collins & Harold Dobson II**
Community activists, Baltimore
- Mary Drayton**
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Washington, D.C.
- Karega Dikes**
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- Jeff Edson**
Attorney, Detroit
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- Delridge Hunter**
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- Cordell Johnson**
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Citizens Committee for
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- Flo Kennedy**
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- Rev. Dr. Charles Koen**
Executive Director
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- Yuri Korchiyama**
Community Activist;
Member, New York 8 +
Against Fascism
Delpense Comm.
- Woodie King**
Producer, director
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- Audre Lorde**
Poet, professor, N.Y.
- Rev. Dr. Richard Lovely**
BMCIR Student Faculty Conf. Center
Temple University
- Chokwe Lumumba**
Chairman
New African People's Organization
- Conrad Lynn**
Civil rights attorney, N.Y.
- Frederick McWilliams**
Insurance executive, marketing/
sales director for national
health service, N.Y.
- Manning Marble**
Political theorist, journalist
- C. Vernon Mason**
Civil rights attorney, N.Y.
- Rev. Frank Morales**
Community organizer, So. Bronx
- New African Griots**
Philadelphia
- New York 8 + /New York 8 + Defense
Committee**
New York
- Duna Nalovu**
South African poet
- Zizute Ngulua**
Poet, Brooklyn
- Rev. Nyati**
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- Justice Bruce Wright**
New York

When Black elected officials use their positions of power to attack Black people, or to cover up for or excuse such attacks, they are no friends of ours and don't speak for or represent the interests of Black people. In the past, lines were clearly drawn on this question. Those who attacked Black people were counted among our enemies. This line must be firmly drawn again. Murder is murder, no matter whether those responsible are Black or white.

Draw the Line Ad Fund was established to facilitate the printing of this ad. Draw the Line represents the views of the above signatories on this one specific issue and it does not reflect the views of this newspaper.

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