

DECLARATION OF WADIYA JAMAL, WIFE OF MUMIA ABU-JAMAL
Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1746

I, WADIYA JAMAL, residing in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, declare the following under penalty of perjury:

I, WADIYA JAMAL, am the wife of Mumia Abu-Jamal who is in the custody of the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections (DOC), now serving a sentence of life imprisonment without parole at SCI Mahanoy, Frackville, PA.

Mumia Abu-Jamal and I were together and married long before his arrest and conviction for this murder he had nothing to do with. While in prison he helped parent our eight children and thirteen grandchildren. Our youngest daughter died of breast cancer on December 17, 2014.

For several months my husband has been suffering from a skin condition of unknown origin. It has gotten progressively worse. Complications have included an allergic reaction to an antibiotic and steroids that were administered. In addition, my husband has developed sudden-onset diabetes. Although his blood sugar was determined to be abnormally high, he was not treated. As a result, on March 30, 2015, he lost consciousness, went into diabetic shock, and nearly died. The episode also left him in renal failure. In the past six weeks my husband's skin condition appears to have further deteriorated and skin biopsies were taken on May 8. The results were allegedly

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negative, though our consulting doctor informed us that the biopsy was performed in a suboptimal manner and may not be reliable.

In any event, the underlying cause(s) of my husband's deteriorating health have not been determined.

My husband authorized the Department of Corrections to release his medical information to me and that authorization is acknowledged and purports to be complied with by the Department of Corrections.

From April 2, 2015 until May 11, 2015 John Steinhart, the Chief Medical Care Administrator at SCI Mahanoy, has given me periodic medical updates on my husband's medical condition.

At approximately 8:30 PM on May 12, 2015 I received a phone call from a nurse in the infirmary at SCI Mahanoy telling me that my husband had been taken to the hospital. She wouldn't give any other information and told me to call Wednesday morning and speak to John Steinhart.

Around 9AM on May 13, 2015 I spoke with John Steinhart and he told me my husband had been transported to Geisinger Medical Center in Danville, PA because of concern of infection given the new blisters on his legs and his diabetic condition. This was done in consultation with the dermatologist and the DOC.

Mr. Steinhart said he didn't have a medical update but did say that Mumia was not in an ICU. Mr. Steinhart said he would provide me a medical

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update as soon as he received one from Geisinger Medical Center. As stated in the paragraph below, since Monday May 11, the day before it was determined by medical staff at SCI Mahanoy in consultation with the DOC that my husband was so ill that he needed to be transferred to Geisinger Medical Center, I have received *absolutely no information* on his medical condition.

I received no medical update from Mr. Steinhart on Wednesday, May 13. On Thursday, May 14 I called Mr. Steinhart and was finally able to reach him at approximately 3:30 pm. He told me he still had received no medical updates from Geisinger and that he was trying to get one. He said that I would hear from a nurse in the infirmary if there was any information. On Friday, May 15, I was again told by the nurse in the SCI Mahanoy infirmary that no information was received on my husband's medical condition.

However, on Thursday, May 14 my attorney Rachel Wolkenstein was told by Geisinger Litigation Counsel, Donald Zaycosky, that a medical report was given by Geisinger to the prison.

In that initial phone call with Mr. Steinhart on the morning of May 13, he told me that Superintendent John Kerestes and the DOC had approved visits of immediate relatives for my husband and asked for the names of family members to be given to the security detail at the hospital. I told him to begin processing my visit and I would be on my way.

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Shortly after that, I received another call from Mr. Steinhart telling me that Geisinger Medical Center was not allowing any visitation. This was Wednesday morning, May 13 at approximately 10:30 AM.

Subsequently, my attorney Rachel Wolkenstein contacted Laura Neal, of the DOC Legal Counsel's office, who confirmed that immediate family visitation was approved by Sup. John Kerestes and the DOC, but the issue of not permitting visits was the policy of the Geisinger Medical Center. In that same communication, Ms. Neal stated that I would receive medical updates from Mr. Steinhart at SCI Mahanoy.

On Friday morning my attorney informed me that Mr. Zaycosky stated that an exception could be made to allow family visits and phone communication with my husband and explicitly stated that Geisinger did not object to phone calls or family or legal visitation, but wanted to make sure this was OK with the DOC. That was at approximately 9:00 am Friday, May 15.

Since then there has been no response from SCI Mahanoy, the DOC or Geisinger Medical Center to inquiries about the medical condition of my husband Mumia Abu-Jamal or my ability to visit or even to have a phone call with him.

Under the circumstances, which include medical mistreatment as well as medical neglect of my husband Mumia Abu-Jamal, I am extremely worried about his medical condition and alarmed at the fact that he is being held

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incommunicado and that neither I nor his counsel and his private doctor are being any denied any sort of access to him.

I certify the facts set forth above are true and correct to the best of my personal knowledge, information and belief, subject to the penalty of perjury, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1746.

Signature: Wadiya Jamal

Date: 5/17/15