

# NAACP ILLINOIS STATE CONFERENCE

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Media Release

October 4, 2018

SPRINGFIELD— NAACP IL State President Teresa Haley released the following statement ahead of the verdict in the trial of Chicago Police Officer Jason Van Dyke, who was charged with murder in the shooting death of Laquan McDonald:

"I pray that the jury makes the right decision in the Laquan McDonald case." Lives have been destroyed and a young man died way before his time.

The NAACP across the State of Illinois echoes Mr. McDonald's family in asking for peace and constructive responses no matter what the verdict is.

Let's not destroy our neighborhoods, our business and our community. We still have to live and work here after the verdict has been read. Let's continue to work to build better relationships between the black community and the police. Let's really put those 10 Principles between the NAACP and the Illinois Chief of Police into action:

<https://www.ilchiefs.org/shared-principles>

For far too long when it comes to justice, it has been "Just-Us" on the battlefield for what's right. Violence is destructive for our communities and will not take away any pain. People from everywhere are watching and waiting to see if we as a people will do the right thing regardless of the verdict.

Remember, no justice, no peace and peace starts at home.

We send a stronger message to the world with peaceful solidarity and constructive action.

Let us work together toward progress and a better future together.

The NAACP has been and will continue to work to improve Police-Community Relations and change laws that better protect and serve all people.



Teresa Haley  
State President