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Movement for Black Lives Organizes Counter Protest to Bowser’s Election Party for 3 Black People Murdered by MPD in Last Two Months

Washington, DC — Organizers with Black Youth Project 100 DC (BYP100 DC) and Black Lives Matter DC (BLM DC) are counterprotesting Muriel Bowser’s election night celebration to demand justice for the recent police murders of Jeff Price, D’Quan Young, and M. Alston.

On the night of June 12, 2018 police officers murdered M. Alston near the corner of First Street and Wayne Place SE. After officers shot the young man multiple times and left his body in the street for over three hours, the Bowser administration manipulated the moment of grief into a ploy for re-election and sent a former ANC Commissioner in a “Re-Elect Mayor Bowser” T-shirt to “comfort” the victim’s mother and condemn organizers who were present. Rather than seek accountability for the loss of Black lives, Bowser sought votes.

As Darya Nicol, an Organizer with BYP100 explained, “We are doing this because it’s our duty to seek accountability for Black communities who live in fear of being added to the running list of people killed by MPD as the Bowser administration stands by.” Racist police brutality goes beyond DC, as the roots of American policing in many regions lie in slave patrols. Police have been murdering Black people with freedom from punishment for centuries. Witnessing injustices like the police murder in Southeast and the 466 people killed by police in 2018 alone, we know that policing is an inherently white supremacist institution at its core.

We demand that Mayor Muriel Bowser and Councilmember Charles Allen direct MPD Police Chief Peter Newsham and Deputy Mayor for Public Safety and Justice Kevin Donahue to immediately release all of the body-worn-camera footage, the names of all of the officers that discharged their weapons, and the immediate terminations of those officers without pay or pensions. We demand that the NEAR Act be fully funded.

We will continue to fight back until the state sanctioned murders of Black people yearning to live our lives free from racist policing come to an end. We will continue to resist white supremacy.

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BYP100 is a national member-based organization of Black 18-35 year old activists, dedicated to creating justice and freedom for all Black people. We do our work through a Black Queer Feminist lens.

Black Lives Matter DC is a radical collective of Black artists, infrastructure builders and movement healers and strategists from the future, organizing in the here and now.