

CPS CRISIS



The Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) is charged with inaction. This year there have been two damning unlawful killing verdicts into deaths in custody and still the CPS is procrastinating about whether to charge those involved.

A number of other families, whose loved ones died in custody, are also still waiting for the CPS to make decisions on whether to prosecute those involved. The standard response in recent years has been 'not enough evidence to prosecute', this is not good enough. We want the killers charged.

Demonstrate outside the CPS

6 December 2013, 11-1pm

Crown Prosecution Service, Rose Court, 2 Southwark Bridge, London SE1 9HS

Called by: The United Families and Friends Campaign, Azelle Rodney Campaign for Justice, Justice for Habib 'Paps' Ullah Campaign, Sean Rigg Justice and Change Campaign, the Christopher Alder Justice Campaign, Justice4Grainger and Stop G4S.

Supported by: Migrant Media, Newham Monitoring Project (NMP), South London Anti-Fascists (SLAF), London Campaign Against Police and State Violence (LCAPSV), Defend the Right to Protest (DtRtP), London Palestine Action and Joint Enterprise Not Guilty by Association (JENGbA).

CPS: charge the killers now

The last time a police officer was successfully convicted for involvement in a black death in custody was in 1972 - following the death of **David Oluwale** in 1969. Although police officers have been prosecuted for other black deaths in custody - **Joy Gardner**, **Christopher Alder** and **Mikey Powell** - none was successful.

Many other families have been failed by the CPS following the deaths of loved ones in custody. Families who have had to wait years for inquests and then months while the CPS considered charges for it only to decide no prosecution. Families including those of **Ricky Bishop**, **Roger Sylvester**, **Brian Douglas** and many more...

Families still waiting...

- The family of **Azelle Rodney** are still waiting for the CPS to bring charges against a police officer known only as 'E7' after a judge-led inquiry found that Azelle was unlawfully killed. Azelle Rodney was shot six times in a pre-planned operation by armed police in Edgware, north London on 30 April 2005. The inquiry led by Sir Christopher Holland found that 'E7's accounts of what he saw are not be accepted'. Going on to find 'that that there was no lawful justification of shooting Azelle Rodney so as to kill him. I am wholly satisfied that firing so as to kill him ... was disproportionate and therefore unreasonable and unlawful.'
- The family of **Jimmy Mubenga** are still waiting for a decision on whether the three G4S guards who unlawfully restrained Jimmy Mubenga on an airplane at Heathrow in October 2010 will face charges. In July 2013 an inquest jury recorded an unlawful killing verdict after hearing that Jimmy Mubenga was restrained for over half an hour with unlawful restraint methods on the plane during a deportation.
- The family of **Sean Rigg** are still waiting for the CPS to decide whether the three police officers (a serving police sergeant and constable and a retired constable) will face charges of perjury and/or perverting the course of justice after giving evidence at Sean's inquest. Sean Rigg, who suffered from mental health problems, died in the custody of Brixton police on 21 August 2008 after he was restrained in a prone position. In August 2012 an inquest jury recorded a damning narrative verdict that the actions or inactions of the officers more than minimally contributed to Sean's death. As a result of this verdict numerous new inquiries were initiated and officers may yet face charges.
- The family of **Habib Ullah** are still waiting for CPS to decide whether to charge five police officers over the incidents that led to his death and for changing their statements in relation to this. The inquest into Habib's death was halted in December 2010 after it emerged that police officers had amended their statements in the presence of senior officers, Police Federation reps and a solicitor. The family are also waiting to hear if a new inquest will be held if there is no criminal trial. Habib Ullah died on 3 July 2008 after a stop and search by High Wycombe police on a car in which Habib was a passenger in. Five police officers were involved in restraining Habib who became 'limp' and later died in hospital.
- The family of **Anthony Grainger** are still waiting for a decision on whether the CPS will charge any of the officers involved in his shooting. His family have yet to see the IPCC report into his death which was recently leaked to the *Manchester Evening News* and is highly critical of Greater Manchester police. Anthony Grainger was shot by police on 3 March 2012 in Cheshire following a planned operation by police.
- The family of **Christopher Alder** are still waiting on a decision on whether the CPS will prosecute any of the mortuary staff involved in the 'mix-up' over Christopher's body which resulted in Christopher only recently being buried. Janet Alder, Christopher's sister, also launched a case against the CPS for racial discrimination that she lost in March 2011. And the family and lawyers had to campaign for four years to get the CPS to prosecute the officers involved for manslaughter. The CPS was reluctant and only changed their minds after the family found evidence that forced them to reconsider.