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COMMUNITY JOINS NATIONAL BAIL OUT EFFORTS AND BAILS OUT 8 ½-MONTH-PREGNANT MAMA FOR MOTHER'S DAY

WHAT: PRESS CONFERENCE

WHERE: LA CAN, 838 E. 6TH STREET, LOS ANGELES, CA 90021

WHEN: MAY 10, 2018 at 12 P.M.

Los Angeles, CA -- Organizers, Academics and LA County Public Defender's to hold press conference in Los Angeles for the National Mama's Bail Out Day Campaign.

Speakers & invitees include: **Patrisse Cullors (Justice LA), Kelly Lytle Hernandez (author of "City of Inmates"), Jody Armour (USC Professor of law), Sherise Francis (LA County Public Defender), Gina Belafonte, Pete White (Executive Director, Los Angeles Community Action Network (LA CAN)) and the Creative Artists Agency Foundation** - press conference will highlight local efforts within the national campaign and call attention to systemic injustices, namely: the unfair cash money bail system and mass incarceration.

LA CAN will host the press conference and lift the case of Miss. Murphy, an 8 ½ month pregnant Black Mother, ruthlessly snatched away from her 4 y/o daughter and thrown into jail, following a family domestic dispute. This case illustrates the unjust impact of pretrial detention on black families. Upon hearing of her case, LA CAN immediately identified Miss. Murphy as someone "we needed to help" so she could return to her 4 year old daughter, resume pregnancy in a safe environment, and be home for Mother's Day.

"A pregnant mother should not have to contemplate giving birth in custody when she is fighting a case with minimal prior record. The process of fighting a case can take months, if not years. That amount of time is life changing for a mother and for her child. The disruption that fighting a case from in custody causes is too high a price for the individuals and for society. The damage is often irreparable. We all suffer when families are separated or resources are deviated from the family to have to 'fight a case'. The money bail system needs to be dismantled. It is not administered justly and the inherent flaws affect families of color disproportionately. Money bail eviscerates the presumption of innocence." **Sherise Francis, LA County Public Defender**

The National Mama's Day Bail Out Campaign gives incarcerated mothers an opportunity to spend Mother's Day with their families [#BlackMamasBailout](#)

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