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Ohio Chapter of the National Lawyers Guild

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CLEVELAND BRANCH NAACP

June 29, 2016

Stephen D. Anthony

Sent via U.S. Mail

Special Agent in Charge Federal Bureau of Investigation, Cleveland Division 1501 Lakeside Avenue Cleveland, OH 44114

Clifford Pinkney

Sheriff, Cuyahoga County 1215 West 3rd Street Cleveland, Ohio 44113

Calvin D. Williams

Chief of Police, Cleveland Division of Police 1300 Ontario St. Cleveland, Ohio 44113

The Honorable Jeh Johnson

Secretary of Homeland Security Nebraska Avenue Complex 3801 Nebraska Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20528

Director Joseph P. Clancy

U.S. Secret Service, Office of Government and Public Affairs 245 Murray Lane Washington, DC 20223

RE: LETTER OF COMPLAINT – LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENTS KNOCKING ON DOORS TO COLLECT RNC INTEL

Dear Special Agent Anthony, Sheriff Pinkney, Chief Williams, Secretary Johnson, and Director Clancy:

On behalf of the Ohio Chapter of the National Lawyers Guild and the Cleveland Branch of the NAACP, we submit to you this letter of complaint concerning law enforcement intelligence gathering practices in the greater Cleveland area concerning the Republican National Convention (RNC).

Over the past week, your agencies have knocked on scores of doors at the homes and workplaces of community members, activists, and organizers. It is clear that your agencies are on a fishing expedition for intelligence concerning First Amendment activity planned for the RNC. Your agencies may choose to investigate planned events during the RNC. However, we assert that your agents' and officers' conduct has crossed the line from investigation to harassment.

None of those contacted by your agents and officers have committed any crimes and were only selected because of some history of political activism. The idea that these individuals would have knowledge of any planned criminal acts is senseless. This broad and sudden descent upon people across the community who are engaging in lawful First Amendment activity is unacceptable.

Please be aware that we are documenting agents' and officers' conduct and that the communities in Cleveland you are targeting are uninterested in assisting in your fishing expedition.

Sincerely,

Jacqueline Greene, Esq. Co-Coordinator

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