

Innocent Victim Is Severely Beaten And Brutalized By The Notorious Roosevelt Island Public Safety Officers:

/EINPresswire.com/ Residents Demand Accountability

NEW YORK, NY - January 30, 2013 -- The Law Offices of Michael S. Lamonsoff will hold a press conference at 1:00 p.m., at its offices located at 80 Maiden Lane, 12th Floor, New York, New York on Wednesday, January 30th, 2013, regarding the beating and brutalization of Roosevelt Island resident Anthony Jones, who was violently assaulted by the Island's peace officers.

In a bizarre twist of fate, those that are charged with the protection of Roosevelt Islanders have become the biggest threat to the security of the Island's residents. The Roosevelt Island Public Safety Department, through their peace officers, are solely responsible for policing the Island's residents. While they are not members of the New York City Police Department, they are given similar powers in that they can effectuate arrests, use force, detain people, and issue summonses and tickets. Any persons arrested by them are turned over to the local NYPD precinct for processing.

The Island's peace officers are not held to the same level of accountability for their excesses and abuses as the NYPD. They don't have oversight groups like the IAB or the CCRB and they are answerable only to the Roosevelt Island Operating Committee Board of Directors who are political appointees. Their unchecked tactics include false arrests, beatings, Miranda rights violations, the imposition of curfews pell-mell, arresting residents who are not carrying picture identification, publicly defaming residents and using baseless, trumped up charges. The victims of these tactics are primarily the Island's youth, whose futures are put at risk by these tactics. Parents of the Island's youth fear not only for their children's futures but also for their physical safety.

On January 13, 2013, 20-year-old Anthony Jones was violently assaulted by the Island's peace officers. The assault began at 8:00 pm, at an apartment complex at which Mr. Jones and his friends were lawfully waiting for a resident to come out. Suddenly and without any provocation, the officers rushed towards them. They ordered Mr. Jones to the ground, and he complied. Thereafter, without resisting in any manner, he was maced, severely kicked, beaten and then handcuffed.

After having handcuffed Mr. Jones, the officers continued to brutally beat, kick and mace him.

Finally, he was taken to a holding cell of the Roosevelt Island Public Safety Department. While being held, Mr. Jones made desperate complaints that he could not breathe. He was taken to the hospital and handcuffed to his bed. At the hospital, doctors determined that Anthony was hemorrhaging blood into his lungs from the brutal beating at the hands of the officers. As a result of the beating, Mr. Jones sustained severe injuries to his lungs, several fractured ribs and teeth, requiring him to be admitted into the hospital for 7 days. Mr. Jones was never charged with a crime nor was he processed by the NYPD.

The Roosevelt Island Public Safety Department and their actions demonstrate a lack of training, regulation and accountability. Their actions are indicative of tactics designed to terrorize a peaceful and law-abiding community into fear and submission.

Available for Questions will be: Anthony Jones, his family members, and his attorneys will be available for questions, along with community activist Frank Farance, who is a member of the Roosevelt Island Public Safety Committee (a division of the Roosevelt Island Residents Association). Mr. Farance is the former president of the Roosevelt Island Residents Association. Also present will be Erin Feely-Nahem who is the chair of the Public Safety Committee of the Roosevelt Island Residents Association.

Contact:

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