

I FEAR THE POLICE MORE...

In 2014, Laquan M<sup>c</sup>Donald, age 17 was shot 16 times by Chicago cop Jason Van Dyke. The incident has been well reported in the media.<sup>1</sup> While Van Dyke will now be facing murder charges the story doesn't end there.

What bothers me is the fact Van Dyke's fellow cops helped him to cover up the murder by lying in reports and deleting more than 86 minutes of surveillance footage that caught Van Dyke's crime on tape and none of them are charged with being accessories to murder.<sup>2</sup> There were at least eight other cops that saw Van Dyke execute Laquan M<sup>c</sup>Donald.<sup>3</sup>

I know countless prisoners serving sentences of anywhere from 10 years to Life for being "accessories" to a murder. Most of them were not even present during the murder, did not know the murder was going to occur, and only helped to destroy evidence. Nonetheless, they are serving prison sentences. So, why aren't the cops who assisted Van Dyke cover up his crime also charged?<sup>4</sup>

Rather, the Chicago's head prosecutor took over a year to charge Van Dyke while he continued to work on desk duty.<sup>5</sup> Garry M<sup>c</sup>Carthy, the Chicago Police superintendent called the officers deleting

the 86 minutes of footage and lying in reports as "technical difficulties." These are the "good guys".

Of course, while Anita Alvarez, Chicago's Prosecutor, is willing to let killer cops skate she is tirelessly pursuing the "real" threats — people like Tiawanda Moore, who recorded her conversation with two Chicago cops.

Moore alleged that while being questioned by Chicago police during a domestic disturbance between her and her boyfriend that one of the officers interviewed her in her bedroom, groped her breast and slipped her his home phone number. She filed a complaint against the officer.<sup>7</sup>

Two internal affairs officers investigated her allegation. She felt something was shady about the interaction and felt threatened. So she recorded her conversation with the officers — which turns out to be a crime in Chicago.<sup>7</sup> Anita Alvarez immediately charged Tiawanda Moore and refused to investigate any of the Chicago cops involved.<sup>7</sup>

So, it is no surprise Alvarez took a year to charge Van Dyke and has let his fellow cops get away, literally, with being accessories to his murder. It shouldn't be a surprise that 75% of Chicago cops with multiple charges of abuse never receive any discipline and 85% of abuse complaints are dismissed without the officer ever being interviewed.<sup>8</sup>

And it should be noted, Chicago is only the most glaring example of Police corruption. The corruption of U.S. Police forces is systemic. Thousands of corrupt cops go unpunished in

every city and town in the U.S. and often for decades. Recently an Alabama Police Crew, for example, was accused of planting evidence on innocent men for decades.<sup>9</sup>

Police advocates try to paint this as bad apples — it's not. It's a bad system. I personally fear Police officers more than ISIS terrorists. The corrupt cops, like Van Dyke and his associates, act under the color of state law with the power to get away with their crimes with a pat on the back from Prosecutors such as Alvarez.

ISIS, in contrast, is a distant problem. The chances I or any other citizen will come in contact with an ISIS terrorist in the U.S. is near nonexistent. While the Police arrest more than 14 million<sup>+</sup> people a year. How many of those arrested are their victims? We may never know when they're allowed to cover up their crimes...

#### FOOTNOTES

(1) <http://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2015/dec/02/chicago-police-garry-mccarthy-laquan-mcdonald>  
<http://www.motherjones.com/politics/2015/11/laquan-mcdonald-chicago-police-shooting-video-explainer>  
<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/breaking/ct-chicago-cop-shooting-video-laquan-mcdonald-charges-20151124-story.html>

(2) <http://thefreethoughtproject.com/photos-reveal-police-deleting-surveillance-footage-murderous-cop/>

www.alternet.org/news-amp-politics/cops-didnt-know-camera-caught-them-deleting-video-murder-laquan-mcdonald

(3) <http://www.thedailybeast.com/articles/2015/12/01/i-got-the-laquan-mcdonald-video-released-but-chicago-is-still-covering-up-his-death.html>

(4) <http://www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2015/11/protesting-the-corrupt-system-that-killed-laquan-mcdonald/417723>

(5) <http://www.dailykos.com/stories/2015/11/24/1453982/-The-horrifying-behavior-of-Anita-Alvarez-Chicago-s-head-prosecutor?detail=email>

(6) <http://www.alternet.org/news-amp-politics/cops-didnt-know-camera-caught-them-deleting-video-member-laquan-mcdonald>

(7) [http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2011-08-25/news/ct-net-eavesdropping-trial-0825-20110825\\_1-eavesdropping-law-police-officers-law-enforcement/2](http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2011-08-25/news/ct-net-eavesdropping-trial-0825-20110825_1-eavesdropping-law-police-officers-law-enforcement/2)

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[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2011/06/08/chicago-district-attorney-recording-bad-cops\\_n\\_872921.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2011/06/08/chicago-district-attorney-recording-bad-cops_n_872921.html)

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/news/voicex-conspiracy/wp/2014/05/01/woman-jailed-two-weeks-for-recording-chicago-p-d-s-internal-affairs-officers-can-sue-for-a-fourth-amendment-violation/>

(8) <https://chitaskforce.wordpress.com/2011/08/24/naw-that-tiawanda-moure-is-free-what-lessons-can-we-learn>

(9) <https://youcouldbewrong.wordpress.com/2015/12/04/members-of-an-alabama-elite-police-crew-have-been-accused-of-planting-evidence-on-innocent-men-for-decades/>

<https://www.innocenceproject.org/news-events-exonerations/leaked-documents-show-alabama-police-planted-drugs-guns-on-innocent-black-men-in-decades-long-scheme#sthash.EDLdSIik.dpuf>