

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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In the summer of 2014, a dialogue began during our Youth Rally, “LIVE.” We were challenged by the young men in attendance on the issue of the lack of respect they receive from law enforcement officers in their neighborhoods. Parents voiced their concerns about law enforcement’s treatment of their sons. Questions were raised as to what to do when law enforcement stops you on your way home from your part-time job, band practice, or some other extra-curricular activity. Confusion and anger were expressed as to “why was I stopped?” Parents expressed disbelief and frustration that their sons are stopped by law enforcement for no apparent reason.

In response to this exchange, we planned a follow-up session. We have invited the stake-holders in the criminal justice system to sit with us and discuss issues common to many young men across this nation. We have invited the judiciary, Judge Sandra Cabrina Jenkins; the prosecution, Assistant U.S. Attorney, Duane A. Evans; a member of the defense bar, John T. Fuller; and counsel for an eye-witness to the Michael Brown shooting, James M. Williams, to engage us in dialogue on an issue that has both united and divided our communities along race, economic, and class lines.

We believe it is important to encourage discussion in a safe haven, such as the church. **We invite all to join us on Tuesday, December 9, 2014 at 6:30 p.m.** Attached is a flyer detailing additional information.