



YWCA Olympia is deeply disappointed by Judge Erik Price's sentencing of Bryson Chaplin to 10 and 1/2 months and Andre' Thompson to 2 months in the Thurston County jail for events that transpired on May 21st, 2015.

What happened on that day should be synonymous with police brutality in our community; excessive force was used by Police Officer Donald against two young men, leaving one of them, Bryson Chaplin, paralyzed from the waist down. Both Chaplin and Thompson continue to cope with the traumatic event, struggling with housing and employment hardships.

YWCA joins others in Olympia and across the nation who are deeply disturbed by the lack of accountability for unjustified police violence against individuals and communities of color, as well as the extreme racial disproportionality found in the US criminal justice system. Today, the US imprisons African-Americans at a higher rate than South Africa did during apartheid.

YWCA stands with the Chaplin-Thompson family. If you would like to make a one-time or monthly donation to the Chaplin-Thompson family to help with ongoing medical, legal and housing needs, please do so at the Showing Up For Racial Justice Olympia (SURJ)

website: <https://olympiasurj.wordpress.com/>

YWCA Olympia also endorses Washington State I-940 in calling for accountability related to police use of deadly force and ongoing training for police officers. We urge you to sign I-940 at De-Escalate Washington: <http://www.deescalatewa.org/>

YWCA IS ON A MISSION