

Nationwide Protests Demand Justice for Michael Brown

23/10/2014



?Some 150 people rallied outside the Ferguson Police Department Wednesday, demanding justice for the murdered unarmed teenager Michael Brown, and the arrest of the police officer who shot him, Darren Wilson.

Part of the National Day of Protest Against Police Brutality, similar protests were held in Sacramento, San Francisco, New York, among others.

The protests were organized by the Ferguson October movement, an afro-american led movement that demands a halt on the racial crimes against black people by white police officers.

During October, the movement organized marches and gatherings to protest around the country.

The Brown family asked the protesters to rally peacefully and in calm, "even though we understand people may have feelings of anger or disappointment."

On August 9, white police officer Darren Wilson shot and killed african-american teenager Michael Brown, 18, in the streets of Ferguson, Missouri.

Since then, thousands of people have marched in Ferguson and other cities claiming for justice.

On Tuesday the newspaper St. Louis Post-Dispatch leaked the autopsy of Michael Brown, which was done by St. Louis County medical examiner.

The autopsy claimed that Brown's hand tissue showed particles "consistent with products that are discharged from the barrel of a firearm." But the autopsy noted there was no residue often left by guns fired at close range.

Benjamin Crump, an attorney of Brown family, said the autopsy was not surprising given that several witnesses said there was an altercation at the patrol car.

Returning the debate to the key issue of the nature of Ferguson policing, he added "What we want to know is why Officer Wilson shot Michael Brown multiple times and killed him even though he was more than 20 feet away from his patrol car; this is the crux of the matter."

Activists have been even more forthright slamming the leak of an autopsy report as a move to gain support for officer Wilson.

"It is intentional that they are leaking this stuff," said Tory Russell, an organizer of Hands Up United, which has called for Wilson to be charged.

"At every turn they are saying Mike Brown was a bad guy and deserved to die." he added.