

International Legal and Legislative Summit on Water Affordability, Sanitation and Housing*¹

In conjunction with

International Gathering of Social Movements on Water Affordability and Housing

May 29-31, 2015

PROGRAM

The Summit will take place in conjunction with the International Gathering of Social Movements on Water Affordability and Housing (<http://www.socialmovementsgathering.info>)

Date: Friday, May 29, 2015

Time: 8:30 AM – 4 PM

Address: Hotel St. Regis- 3071 W Grand Boulevard, Detroit - MI - 48202

8:30 a.m. – Continental Breakfast, arrival, check in, meet and greet

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Morning session – Alice Jennings, Summit Co coordinator, Session chair

Call to Order and Welcome – Alice Jennings, Edwards and Jennings, P.C., Coordinator - Pro bono Lawyers Committee for the *Lyda et al v City of Detroit* lawsuit brought by Detroit families who experienced water shutoffs

- Welcome to Detroit – Maureen Taylor, Co Chair, Michigan Welfare Rights Organization
- Reverend Charles Williams 2nd, King Solomon Baptist Church – Detroit, President, National Action Network Michigan and Detroit Chapter
- Welcome to the Summit – The Honorable John Conyers, U.S. House of Representatives, Detroit
- History of Water Shut offs in Detroit – Rev. Dr. Joann Watson, former Detroit City Council Member
- Lila Cabbil and Melissa Damaschke – People's Water Board

* **Sponsors:** Highland Park Human Rights Coalition, James and Grace Lee Boggs Center to Nurture Community Leadership, *Lyda* Pro bono Lawyers Committee, Edwards and Jennings, P.C., Michigan ACLU, Michigan Chapter - National Action Network, Michigan Legal Services, Michigan Poverty Law Program, Michigan Welfare Rights Organization, Moratorium Now, NAACP LDF, National Lawyers Guild - Michigan, Peoples Water Board Coalition, Sugar Law Center, UUSC, We the People.

Morning Panel 1: Realities of water affordability and water shut offs in Cities (45 min) –

Chair: Monica Lewis Patrick, We the People

Highland Park – Marian Kramer and Kurt Swanson, Highland Park Human Rights Coalition

Detroit – Pastor Bill Wyle Kellerman, Pastor of St. Peters Episcopal Church;
Valarie Burris, R.N., Ms. T, Nicole Hill

Flint – Bishop Bernadine Jefferies, Claire McClinton, LeAnn Walker, and Mellisa Mayes

Boston – Suren Moodliar and Dorotea Manuela, Co coordinators, Massachusetts Global Action

Benton Harbor – Ms. Emma Kennard – Interim President of BANCO

Hamtramck – Ms. S.

Baltimore – Curtis Cooper

Morning Panel 2: Litigating water justice cases and housing foreclosures (45 min)

Chair: Mark Fancher, Racial Justice Project of ACLU of Michigan, *Lyda* Pro bono Lawyers Committee

Valdemar Washington, Flint constitutional case

Michael Steinberg, Michigan Chapter of ACLU

Julie Hurwitz, Goodman and Hurwitz, P.C., Homrich 9 Defense and *Lyda* pro bono Lawyers Committee

International Perspective (30 min) – Dr. Inga Winkler, Center for Human Rights and Global Justice, NYU School of Law

UN Mandate Guidance to governments on implementation

(<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/WaterAndSanitation/SRWater/Pages/Handbook.aspx>)

Commentary – Bret Thiele, Co-Executive Director – Global Initiative for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (amicus – *Lyda* case)

12:00 LUNCH

12:30 Keynote: "Movements, Courts, and Legislation: The Road to Social Justice"

Janai Nelson, Associate Director-Counsel, NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund

1:10 p.m. – 3:50 p.m. Afternoon Sessions, Patricia Jones, Summit co-coordinator, Sessions chair

1:10 Afternoon Panel 1 – State Legislative Initiatives (45 minutes) Chair: Lorray Brown

California Experience – Colin Baily, Executive Director, Environmental Justice Coalition on Water

Michigan State Initiative - Hon. Stephanie Chang, Michigan State Representative (Detroit)

Lorray Brown, Co-director and consumer law attorney,
Michigan Poverty Law Center
Marilyn Mullane, Executive Director, Michigan Legal Services
Jim Olson, FLOW

1:55 Afternoon Panel 2 – National Administrative and Legislative Initiatives (30 minutes)

Monique Lin-Luse and Patricia Jones, Session Chairs

Monique Lin-Luse, Assistant Counsel, NAACP LDF

Martha Davis, Northeastern University School of Law - PHRGE

Patricia Jones, Senior Program Lead – human right to water, UUSC

Rebecca Landy, US Human Rights Network

2:25 – 3:45 Idea Trust – Chair: Marilyn Mullane, Michigan Legal Services

- Opening remarks: Roger Colton, Fisher, Sheehan and Colton, water affordability plans
- Banks and foreclosures, Jerry Goldberg, *Lyda* Committee and Moratorium Now
- Focus Groups
 1. National legislative initiatives focus group discussion – Monique Lin-Luse / Patricia Jones, (facilitators)
 2. State Legislative initiatives focus group discussion, Lorray Brown / Marilyn Mullane (facilitators)
 3. Litigation initiatives focus group discussion – Kurt Thornbladh, *Lyda* Pro Bono Lawyers Committee / Brooke Tucker, Michigan Chapter ACLU (facilitators)
 4. Foreclosures and Housing focus group discussion – Vanessa Fluker, Foreclosure Specialist, and Jerry Goldberg

3:50 Close and Adjourn Alice Jennings, Summit Co coordinator

**5:00 p.m. Friday – Reception - Wayne County Community College, 1001 West Fort Street
Opening Event – Gathering of Social Movements**

Saturday, May 30th - Gathering of Social Movements Events

Sunday, May 31st - Gathering of Social Movements Events

**June 3rd, 10:00 -11:30 AM Hearing (Rep. Stephanie Chang) – water affordability and safety in
Michigan, Room 426, Capitol Building, 100 Capitol Avenue, Lansing MI 48933**