

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Pozen Center Launches Chicago Torture Archive**

The Pozen Family Center for Human Rights at the University of Chicago announces a new online archive hosting nearly 10,000 documents collected by the People's Law Office related to the interrogations, criminal trials, civil rights litigation, journalism, and activism stemming from the so-called Chicago Police torture cases. The Chicago Torture Archive will be maintained as an open, free resource for students, teachers, human rights researchers, and the general public.

As is now widely known, during two decades beginning in 1972, over 100 African American men were tortured by Chicago Police officers under the direction of Commander Jon Burge. After decades of litigation and activism by the torture survivors, their lawyers, family members, journalists, artists, and other allies, the Chicago City Council brought some closure to the cases with the passage of an historic Reparations ordinance in June 2015. Among other provisions, the Reparations Ordinance mandates that the Chicago Public Schools teach students about these cases and their legacy.

The Chicago Torture Archive will be a valuable online research tool to support curriculum in the Chicago Public Schools and other institutions, as recent police actions have provoked the organization of a determined and dedicated movement nation-wide, lead by a new generation of activists.

Together with the Center for the Study for Race, Politics, and Culture, and with the support of the People's Law Office and the Chicago Torture Justice Memorials, the Pozen Center will hold a public conversation to launch the Archive. Participants will include Flint Taylor (People's Law Office), Darrell Cannon (Torture survivor), Alice Kim (Chicago Torture Justice Memorial), and others on Tuesday, October 18 at 6:30pm at Saieh Hall, 5757 S. University Ave. Chicago. (Free street parking is available along University and Woodlawn Avenues.) This event is free, accessible, and open to the public.

Chicago Torture Archive Launch Event:

Tuesday, October 18, 2016; 6:30pm

Saieh Hall, Room 146 (Street parking available on University and Woodlawn Aves.)

5757 S. University Ave.

Chicago, IL 60637

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