



“Except for God”

Antelope Valley African-American Leadership Council (AV-AALC)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, December 23, 2015

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Antelope Valley African-American Leadership Council Statement on African-American Male Killed by Sheriff Deputy in Palmdale, California

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The African-American Leadership Council is deeply concerned about the untimely death of Mr. Leroy Browning, who was shot and killed on Sunday, December 20, 2015, at Taco Bell, by a Sheriff Deputy in Palmdale, California.

“We have reached out to the family of Mr. Browning and our heart and prayers go out to his family during this most difficult time,” said Bishop Henry Hearn, Chair of the Antelope Valley African-American Leadership Council (**AV-AALC**).

With the recent police shootings taking place across the nation in the African-American community, we are rightly concerned about any police shooting taking place in our own backyard—Palmdale.

While we understand and appreciate the risks our Sheriff Deputies take every day in policing our community, we are equally concerned with respect to how that policing is administered.

We have been in contact with Captain Don Ford from the Palmdale Sheriff Station, and will be following this matter with great detail and interest. The taking of anyone’s life is precious and valuable. Despite the circumstances under which Mr. Browning died, his life was valuable and precious and his death will not be dismissed as a simple shooting and fatality without a thorough investigation and follow-through from our community leaders.

We trust in Captain Ford’s leadership and integrity that a thorough, honest and fair investigation will take place regarding the death of Mr. Browning.

The African-American Leadership Council will continue to monitor this case closely to ensure that justice and fairness prevail and that the family of Mr. Browning receive a full understanding of why and how he died.

We ask the community to keep the family in prayer and to maintain peace as we investigate this matter.

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The Antelope Valley African American Leadership Council (AVAALC) is a collaborative that provides a supportive environment in the areas of leadership, unity, policy, and decision making by lending influence to agendas that seek to improve all African Americans in the Antelope Valley.

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