

newSyllabus™
P O L I C Y B U R E A U

TO: COMRADE LIGHT WORKERS, FLF-DAO, AND ENCAMPMENTS
FROM: ANTARAH A. CRAWLEY,
SOV. GRAND SCRIBE,
NEW SYLLABUS, DISIS
DATE: 12 DECEMBER, 2019
SUBJECT: **AMICUS CURIAE IN RE CIVIL ACTION NO 1:18-cv-00701-TNM,
PROCTOR, et al., v. D.C. (NOMA ENCAMPMENT CLASS ACTION LAWSUIT),
PART II**

New Syllabus presents the December 12, 2019, Evening Edition of News...for the Homeless, with Ombudsman Antarah A. Crawley.

The District of Columbia Protocol for Property Found in Public Space and Outreach to Displaced Persons is the Protocol governing the disposition of property and displaced persons found in public space, who have made their homes at encampments.

The Protocol cannot be humane to people because its own name admits that it concerns the disposition of property over people, and goes so far as to imply that displaced persons living in public space are District properties subject to disposition. It therefore should not surprise anybody that the District's practice of Encampment Clean-ups is inhumane. Whereas the District's default disposition of property found in public space is removal and disposal, the default disposition of displaced persons found in public space is harassment.

Citizen Doe testified under oath to the dehumanizing effect of the District's operation.

According to Citizen Doe's testimony, the purpose of the District's Clean-Up Operation is to make displaced persons uncomfortable, and not to mitigate public health concerns, as cited by the District's Departments of Behavioral Health and Human Services.

Citizen Doe claims that the alleged "public health problem" cited by the District as the catalyst for Encampment Clean-Up Operations resulted from the Watergate Encampment of Spring through Fall of 2017, which has since been bulldozed and fenced off from public space.

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(See Terrence McCoy, "Residents of DC homeless camp distressed as city moves to clear site," November 17, 2015. Washington Post).

According to Citizen Doe, the procedure for the District's Encampment Clean-Up Operation is as follows:

The District posts a metal sign near an encampment noticing that a clean-up will occur two weeks out on a date certain. These signs have become a permanent fixture of encampment gates, only the dates of notice and clean-up changing every two weeks.

On the morning of the date posted for clean-up, a female city official described as the "Clean-Up Person" appears with an "army of clean-up guys and a monster truck" that "eats everything." They have seen the truck eat a shopping cart, tarps, and wholly assembled brand new tents. They are legend.

Surviving Clean-Up Day. Citizen Doe testifies that they break down camp and move everything the day before. Not doing so results in disaster, as residents underestimate how much time it will take to break down tents and carry away property. The reality of being observed as your neighbors lose everything makes the experience "a really stressful miserable thing." For displaced persons experiencing homelessness, encampment foreclosure has become a biweekly occurrence. O the humanity of modern society; whose welfare is in such a state of poverty that it takes from those with nothing while subsidizing housing for the ritzy.

Citizen Doe and Citizen Q both testify that residents of encampments subject to immediate disposition often intentionally leave items for the trash collectors to collect because it is believed that such people take pleasure in disposing of displaced people's items and property. Once they are finished disposing of the property and belongings of displaced persons; the clean-up crew does neither power wash nor sanitize the area.

Citizen Doe testifies that once they're done the Community can return to set up camp again. The District posts a new clean-up day later, two weeks in advance of the next date. The encampment residents live in perpetual fear and grave danger of sudden and undue dispossession of their rights to personal property.

Citizen Doe says all they want is the District to stop summarily disposing of the personal property of displaced citizens. The

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District can put on a show for complainant transplants without actually dispossessing people of their basic human rights. All Citizen Doe wants, they say, is peace of mind.

City officials and Communities of Displaced Persons have assembled in the past to humanize what happens when the city performs these clean-ups. The District asserts that they receive calls regarding encampments that violate municipal ordinance, and that they must respond. Encampment residents have sought to convey how damaging the effect of the District's response is to already displaced people.

Citizen Doe says, It is wise to use an alias. Anybody with any sense uses an alias out there. When asked why, Citizen Doe replied, that they believe they will move on from this, and they don't want it to follow them for the rest of their lives, and for other reasons, pride, and danger.

Going forward, the New Syllabus will continue to monitor the case of Encampments of Displaced Persons versus the District of Columbia, and will appoint a Special Outreach Ombudsman to gather intelligence on the matter as the story develops.

Today is December 12, 2019, and this has been news for the homeless with Antarah A. Crawley, Ombudsman. Over and out.