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BASTA Calls for the District Attorney's Office to Mark the Two Year Anniversary of the Arrest of the Bell 8 by Expediting Prosecution

They also call for District Attorney candidates Jackie Lacey and Allen Jackson to take a stand on the prosecution of former Bell Police Randy Adams

Today Bell community leaders from the citizens group BASTA said they were very disappointed with the slow pace of the trials of the so-called Bell 8 — former council members Luis Artiga, Victor Bello, George Cole, Oscar Hernandez, Teresa Jacobo, George Mirabal, former City Administrator Robert Rizzo and his assistant Angela Spaccia.

“These people raped and pillaged the city coffers at the expense of Bell taxpayers and city services. To see them arrogantly walking the streets is a slap in demoralizing to every Bell resident, especially as we continue to pay the highest taxes in the County as Los Angeles as a result” said BASTA representative Dale Walker.

The Bell 8 were arrested on September 21, 2010 and after spending only days in jail all Bell 8 perpetrators were released on bail. The exception being Victor Bello who spent months behind bars, he was unable to meet bail.

“These people have become so arrogant now they’re suing the City of Bell claiming their contracts were some how violated. Robert Rizzo should be ashamed!” said BASTA representative Denise Rodarte.

Among those suing the City of Bell for supposed back pay is former City Manager Robert Rizzo, City Prosecutor Eric Egenna, and former Police Chief Randy Adams. Adams and Egenna were never indicted by the District Attorney’s Office. Adams was allegedly a long time friend of District Attorney Steve Cooley. BASTA has always asserted that Adam’s should have also been indicted along with the Bell 8.

“We believe both candidates for District Attorney Jackie Lacey and Alan Jackson owe it to Los Angeles County to articulate a plan on the prosecution of the Bell 8, whether they will seek an indictment of Randy Adams or not and their strategy for prosecuting public corruption throughout LA county,” concluded Rodarte.

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