

TRANSPORT WORKERS UNION

OF GREATER NEW YORK • AFL-CIO • LOCAL 100

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July 28, 2015

Hon. Cyrus Vance District Attorney of New York County One Hogan Place New York, NY 10013

Dear Mr. Vance:

As you know, Judge Gregory Carro granted bail to defendant Domonic Whilby in the William Pena murder case. Your Assistant DA Randolph Clarke offered a spirited objection to bail based on the severity of the charges and the potential for flight. Unfortunately, Judge Carro decided to grant bail, albeit set at \$500,000.

We in TWU Local 100 are hopeful that Mr. Whilby fails to satisfy bail requirements. His actions in February 2014 took the life of a wonderful family man and dedicated public servant. Our Bus Operators and Transit workers in general, are regular targets of public abuse, both verbally and physically. The entire Transit community is watching this case with great interest and concern. Our members are asking and wondering, will yet another perpetrator of a crime against a Transit worker walk away with a slap on the wrist?

In our view, bail at this time serves no useful purpose. The trial is to begin in six weeks. After having sat in jail for the past 17 months, freedom for this perpetrator would appear only as an enticement to escape justice. Should Mr. Whilby somehow make bail, the members of Local 100 are urging your office to insist on the most rigorous restrictions of movement, including limiting Whilby to New York City, revocation of any existing passport or denial of any passport application, the requirement of an electronic monitoring bracelet, and daily check-ins with authorities.

We also urge your office to aggressively try this case, seeking the most severe penalty allowable under law. We would view any plea deal as a slap in the face to the Pena family, and the family of TWU Local 100.

Ilan Samuelsen,

President, TWU Local 100

