

Who is Marshall Eddie Conway?

Marshall Edward ("Eddie") Conway is a former member of the Black Panther Party who was falsely imprisoned for a crime he did not commit. Eddie was falsely implicated in the murder of one Baltimore City police officer and the assault and attempted murder of two other officers. Eddie claims that not only is he innocent but that he was a target of the FBI's Counterintelligence Program (COINTELPRO), a program designed to destroy individuals and organizations that were considered to be politically objectionable. Eddie asserts that he is one of many political prisoners in the United States as a result of F.B.I. director J. Edgar Hoover's and Assistant Director William Sullivan's war against the Black Panther Party.

On April 24, 1970, two officers investigated a domestic abuse call at 1201 Myrtle Ave in Baltimore. During the investigation, three men opened fire on the patrol car, killing one officer and injuring the other.

Shortly after the shooting, a police officer by the name of Nolan, engaged in a shoot out with a suspect who managed to escape. Police then apprehended two suspects a few blocks away from the incident. Jack Johnson Jr., and James Powell (both later identified as members of the Black Panther Party) were apprehended under the back porch of a house. Several rounds of ammunition and a .38 caliber handgun were found lying on the ground

between the two suspects. The next morning, another gun, a .32 caliber pistol, was allegedly found at the arrest site concealed underneath a sandbox. A ballistics expert testified that a .38 caliber bullet was used in the shooting. Powell was charged with murder in the first degree, and Johnson was charged with murder in the first degree, plus assault with the intent to murder.

**“At no time in my life have I killed or attempted to kill anyone. I have no involvement with that incident. I'm innocent”
- Marshall Eddie Conway**

The day after the shooting a warrant was issued for Marshall Eddie Conway and he was arrested shortly after he reported to work at Baltimore's Main Post Office.

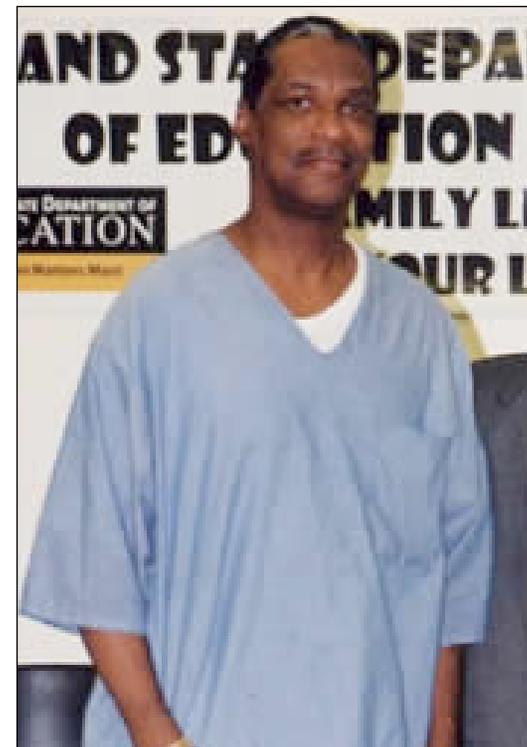
According to the testimony of the arresting officer, the warrant was obtained based on information provided by an informer. Besides a tip from an informer, there is nothing to indicate Conway's involvement in the shooting. Despite this, the prosecution engaged in numerous questionable acts in an attempt to connect Conway- regardless of his guilt or innocence.

In an attempt to make their case against Conway, prosecutors reportedly made a deal with one of the other defendants, Jack Johnson. They offered him complete immunity for his testimony, but when Johnson took the stand, he instead pled the Fifth Amendment. As Eddie's attorney bluntly stated, "You don't let a murderer go

unless you're trying to get someone else".

Another attempt at case building by the prosecution was based on the "stacked deck" identification made by Officer Nolan. Four days after the shootings, Officer Nolan was shown two groups of six to eight photographs. The first set contained a picture of Eddie that was taken six years earlier. The second set contained a picture taken of Eddie at the time of his arrest. Eddie's picture was the only picture that appeared in both sets.

The most disputed piece of circumstantial evidence introduced by the prosecution was the testimony of a known jailhouse informer named Charles Reynolds who claims Eddie



confessed to having taken part in the shootings and filled him in on the details.

Eddie claims he knew that Reynolds was an informer because the word had come to him through the prison grapevine. Eddie says, "I would not have given Reynolds the time of day and surely no conversation about my pending case. One thing all Panthers studied was the law, entrapment and underhanded police tactics."

Unlike the prosecution, Eddie was never able to present his case. Conway fired two attorneys and requested that Attorney Arthur Turco be allowed to handle his case. The judge denied his request and assigned one of Conway's previous lawyers to represent him.

In light of the judge's decision, Eddie requested to represent himself. Judge Harris granted him his request but insisted that Mr. McAllister, his previous lawyer, remain at the defense table to assist Eddie if he needed advice. As a result, Eddie felt he was not being given the right to a fair trial and refused to take part in the trial because he says he was being railroaded. Eddie only returned to the courtroom to protest and demand a new trial and then ask to be returned to his cell. Eddie did not participate in his defense and was denied a request to make his own closing arguments.

Eddie says he has an alibi and can account for his whereabouts at the time the crimes were committed. He declines to make a public statement because he feels that the place for that discussion is in front of a jury when he

gets a new trial.

Free Marshall Eddie Conway

Write to Marshall Eddie Conway at:

Marshall Eddie Conway #116469
P.O. Box 534
Jessup, MD 20794

Partnership for Social Justice
www.freeeddieconway.org

Local groups working with Conway:

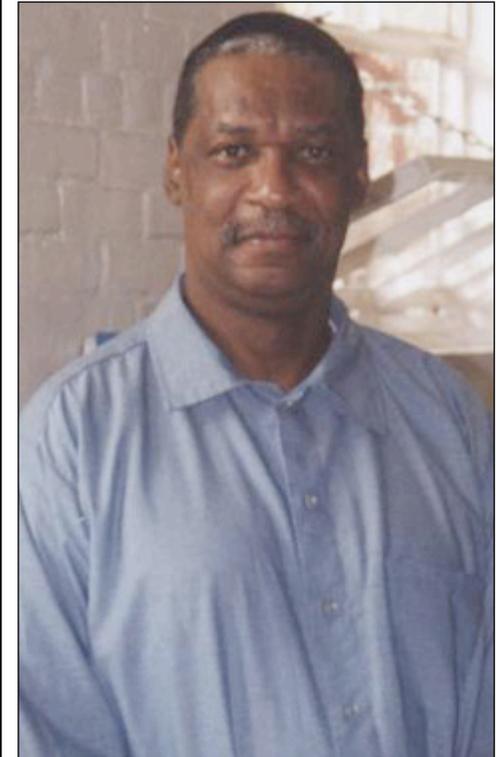
JERICO AMNESTY COALITION
PO Box 34186
Los Angeles, CA 90034

**Anarchist Black Cross Federation
(ABCF)**
PO Box 11223
Whittier, CA 90603
email: la@abcf.net

**YOU CAN HELP BY GIVING POLITICAL
PRISONERS A VOICE AND VISIBILITY**

THE TRUTH CAN SET THEM FREE!

Marshall Eddie Conway



**Black Panther
Sentenced to Life Plus
30 Years For a Crime
He Didn't Commit**