

# #STAND WITH TRACY



**DEAR MANHATTAN DISTRICT ATTORNEY ALVIN BRAGG,**

We, the undersigned organizations, are writing to urge you to drop the charges against Tracy McCarter, who is being criminalized for survival of domestic violence.

We are heartened to hear of your public commitment to reducing your Office's prosecution rate. The effects of such a policy could spare millions of New Yorkers and their families from emotional, physical, and financial distress.

However, while you work to reduce the stream of New Yorkers being incarcerated for "non-violent" charges, we urge you to reconsider your office's stance on prosecuting criminalized survivors of gender-based violence and others charged for so-called violent offenses.

It's all too common for survivors of domestic violence to be prosecuted for experiencing domestic violence and daring to survive it. A national study found that 86% of women who have ever been jailed also report surviving sexual assault and 77% percent have experienced partner violence. Tracy McCarter's prosecution is an egregious example of this. Ms. McCarter, a grandmother, nurse, and Black woman, has already endured seven months of incarceration at Rikers Island during a deadly pandemic, 17 months on an electronic ankle shackle, and immeasurable trauma.

Being subjected to your office's unjust prosecution has been retraumatizing for Tracy, and has negatively affected her family, job, education, and ability to move around safely in the city she calls home.

During your campaign, you spoke out against the prosecution of Tracy McCarter, unequivocally committing to #StandWithTracy and stating that "[p]rosecuting a domestic violence survivor who acted in self-defense is unjust." We demand you stand by the campaign promise you made to "decline to prosecute survivors of domestic violence."

Please correct the grave misstep that occurred in McCarter's prosecution, and acknowledge the evidence and history of domestic violence that supported McCarter's self-defense claims against abuse. **We urge you to do the right thing: Stand with survivors of domestic and gender-based violence, and with other incarcerated people surviving and convicted of acts of violence, and use your prosecutorial discretion to drop her charges TODAY.**

Sincerely,

Color Of Change  
Survived and Punished NY  
5 Boro Defenders  
API Chaya  
California Coalition for Women Prisoners  
Campaign to Free Maddesyn George  
Center for Constitutional Rights  
Coalition Against Trafficking In Women  
Collective Future Fund  
Court Watch NYC of Envision Freedom Fund  
Covid Bail Out NYC  
Coyote RI  
Decriminalize Sex Work

Defend Democracy in Brazil Committee NYC  
Domestic Workers United  
Dream Corps JUSTICE  
Equinox, Inc.  
FairHaven Farm  
FREEDOM AGENDA  
Freedom To Thrive  
Girls Educational and Mentoring Service (GEMS)  
Girls for Gender Equity  
Health Justice  
Her Justice  
Hope's Door  
Hudson River Doulas  
Law Office of Rosemarie Barnett PLLC  
Love & Protect  
Ms. Foundation for Women  
New York State Coalition Against Domestic Violence  
New York State Coalition Against Sexual Assault  
New York University School of Law Black Allied Law Students Association (BALSA)  
Nicole Addimando Community Defense Committee  
Parole Preparation Project  
Police Reform Organizing Project  
Policing and Social Justice Project  
Project Hajra  
Queer Crescent  
Release Aging People in Prison/RAPP Campaign  
Repro Legal Defense Fund  
Returning Hope  
Safe Horizon  
Sakhi for South Asian Women  
Sowing Wildflowers  
Support Ho(s)e Collective  
Survivors Justice Project  
Syracuse Peace Council  
The National Council for Incarcerated and Formerly Incarcerated Women and Girls  
The Retreat  
The SOAR Institute  
Trinity Lutheran Church of Manhattan  
Vera House, Inc.  
Violence Intervention Program  
VOCAL-NY  
Women & Justice Project  
Women's Community Justice Association  
Women's Prison Association  
Young Long Island for Justice



Text "FREETRACY" to 55156 to join the fight to #StandWithTracy.

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