



Resolution in Support of Filing Charges Against and Suspend Police Officer Francisco Garcia

Adopted by DID Membership September 23, 2020

Whereas:

1. The NYPD Internal Affairs Bureau conducted an investigation into Police Officer Francisco Garcia's violent arrest of Donni Wright, an incident captured on video in the East Village on May 2. The IAB recommended departmental charges against Garcia on May 29¹. And in May, the Mayor and Commissioner both publicly promised to handle this case quickly, yet, four months later, no community updates have been given and no further action has been taken.
2. In the widely-circulated video, Officer Garcia is clearly seen kneeling on Donni Wright's neck, the same practice that led to the death of George Floyd and firing of Minneapolis Police Officer Derek Chauvin. It is another form of a "chokehold" which led to the death of Eric Garner and which has been banned by the NYPD patrol guide since 1993.
3. The Manhattan District Attorney's office reportedly also began its own investigation in May 2020, but as of September 2020 has neither filed criminal charges nor updated the community on the status of its investigation.
4. There are no mandatory timelines on updating the status of investigations.

Therefore be it resolved that Downtown Independent Democrats urges that:

1. The Mayor and NYPD immediately update the public on the status of the investigation.
2. The NYPD take immediate and appropriate action with Officer Francisco Garcia, which, unless there are clear and convincing mitigating circumstances, should include disciplinary suspension, departmental charges and fast track the officer for a department trial.
3. Manhattan DA Cy Vance must fast track this investigation, update the community on the status of the investigation, and bring appropriate criminal charges against Officer Francisco Garcia.
4. The NYPD and District Attorney establish and publically commit to clear procedures and timelines for community updates on the status and disposition of police use-of-force cases.

¹ <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/05/29/nyregion/nypd-officers-charged-social-distancing-arrest.html>