



For Immediate Release

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Commissioner: The Truth About Portland Protests? Now, it's urgent.

- [Transmit Media](#), in conjunction with City of Portland Commissioner Jo Ann Hardesty, will host a live stream Zoom event on Friday, August 21st, 2020 to discuss the threat of illegal detention during the ongoing peaceful protests in Portland.
- Moderated by Sola Adenekan of Transmit Media, this one-hour Zoom live stream conversation will feature a discussion of the topic, followed by a question and answer session with audience queries.
- For event information and access, please visit Transmit Media Podcast Network at <http://www.transmitmedia.live>, or find us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter under Transmit Media Podcast Network.

San Diego, CA –

[Transmit Media](#), in conjunction with the Office of the City of Portland, OR [Commissioner Jo Ann Hardesty](#), will host a live stream event on Friday, August 21st, 2020 to discuss the threat of illegal detention during the ongoing peaceful protests in Portland. Recently, Commissioner Hardesty has worked tirelessly to bring attention to the chilling effects of the law enforcement crackdown in her city through appearances on MSNBC, Democracy Now!, and other media outlets.

“The people of Portland deserve better from law enforcement,” says Commissioner Hardesty, a Naval veteran and past President of the NAACP Portland chapter. “While our neighbors practice their First Amendment right of free speech through peaceful protest, federal agents use the terrible tools of police brutality and unlawful arrest against them. No citizen should have to fear the law as they stand for what is right, and I cannot wait to discuss what we can do to insure their safety in a time of national crisis.”

As President Donald J. Trump makes plans to deploy a sizable number of federal troops throughout the United States, Commissioner Hardesty seeks to answer questions about the future of peaceful protest in a time of intense national crisis. The event's Q and A format allows attendees to address their concerns in real time, with moderation by Sola Adenekan, founder of [Transmit Media](#) and award-winning progressive political documentary filmmaker.

Ms. Adenekan explains, “I think we're headed in a scary direction. It's clear that Donald Trump wants to stifle free speech at the price of our safety and security. Portland is my home, and it hurts to see the President using these scare tactics against us. We care about the country, and must be able to speak freely without fear of kidnapping, unmarked cars, or unidentified troops. These actions must stop immediately, and I'm so glad that Commissioner Hardesty is here to lead the conversation.”

As two Black women in the time of #BlackLivesMatter, both Commissioner Hardesty and Ms. Adenekan hope to bring attention to the widening problem of retaliation by law enforcement. According to [Pew Research](#), “Two-thirds of Americans say that civilians need to have the power to sue police officers to hold them accountable.” The anonymity of these federal forces, along with the underlying statute of qualified immunity, makes it almost impossible for protesters to safely exercise their right to free speech. This discussion brings us closer to the complete truth about the state of protest in the U.S. today.

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Founded in 2020, [Transmit Media](#) produces cutting-edge progressive podcasts, events, videos, and multimedia content meant to inspire and spark change. Through the Transmit Media Podcast Network, our member podcasts will reach an expansive audience focused on change, diversity, and a better future for all. With a planned launch in early September 2020, Transmit Media and Transmit Media Podcast Network looks forward to amplifying the wave of progressive ideals as we build a better tomorrow.