

Key Events in the Murder and Conviction

Dec. 9, 1981: Police Officer Daniel Faulkner is shot and killed in the 1200 block of Locust Street after a traffic stop. Mumia Abu-Jamal, who is wounded in the chest, is arrested with a revolver at his feet.

June 17, 1982: The murder trial of Abu-Jamal begins.

July 2, 1982: The jury deliberates for three hours before convicting Abu-Jamal of first-degree murder.

July 3, 1982: The same jury votes unanimously in favor of the death penalty.

May 25, 1983: Judge Albert Sabo sentences Abu-Jamal to death; the defendant denounces the trial as “a farce and a sham.”

March 9, 1989: The Pennsylvania Supreme Court rejects Abu-Jamal’s appeal.

June 15, 1990: The Inquirer reports on growing support for Abu-Jamal among death-penalty opponents in the United States and abroad.

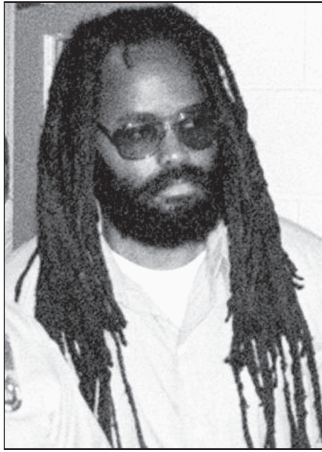
May 15, 1994: National Public Radio announces it will not broadcast commentaries by Abu-Jamal after the Fraternal Order of Police launches a campaign against them; NPR says the decision was purely an editorial one.

February 1995: News reports say a small publisher has given Abu-Jamal a \$30,000 advance for a book, *Live From Death Row*, based on the canceled commentaries.

June 2, 1995: Gov. Tom Ridge signs a death warrant for Abu-Jamal.

July 17, 1995: Hearings for Abu-Jamal’s Post-Conviction Relief Act appeal begin before Sabo.

Sept. 15, 1995: Sabo denies the appeal for retrial.



Mumia Abu-Jamal

Feb. 9, 1996: Abu-Jamal’s attorney appeals to the Pennsylvania Supreme Court.

Sept. 12, 1996: The Supreme Court tosses the case back to Sabo to determine whether he should consider testimony from an ex-prostitute and key prosecution witness who said she lied under pressure from police.

Nov. 1, 1996: A month after hearing from the witness, Sabo rejects the recantation, saying it was not credible.

Oct. 30, 1998: The Pennsylvania Supreme Court upholds the conviction.

Oct. 5, 1999: The U.S. Supreme Court refuses to hear the appeal.

Oct. 13, 1999: Gov. Ridge signs a new death warrant, setting Dec. 2 for execution.

Oct. 26, 1999: U.S. District Court Judge William H. Yohn Jr. stays execution.

April 29, 2000: Abu-Jamal addresses graduates at Antioch College in Ohio in a recorded message; Faulkner supporters stage a silent protest.



Police Officer Daniel Faulkner

June 22, 2000: A 10-mile stretch of Roosevelt Boulevard is designated the Police Officer Daniel Faulkner Memorial Highway.

Dec. 4, 2001: Paris City Council names Abu-Jamal an honorary citizen.

Dec. 18, 2001: Yohn overturns Abu-Jamal’s death penalty and orders a life sentence or a new death-penalty hearing.

Dec. 21, 2001: District Attorney Lynne M. Abraham appeals the decision; the case is still pending.

May 2006: St.-Denis, a suburb of Paris, names a street after Abu-Jamal.

May 17, 2007: A three-judge panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit hears spirited oral arguments in an appeal focusing on Judge Yohn’s 2001 decision.

Feb. 19, 2008: Abu-Jamal loses another round in the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. The state’s highest court rejects his request for a hearing into his contention that witnesses in his case committed perjury. The justices conclude he had waited too long before raising his arguments.