



OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**CLERK DOROTHY BROWN SAYS CONCERNS
ABOUT BURKE VINDICATED BY ARREST**

Statement by the Honorable Dorothy Brown, Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County, regarding the Oct. 21, 2008, arrest of former Chicago Police Department Commander Jon Burge on charges of obstruction of justice and perjury:

Back in February 2007, I was the first elected official to send a letter to U.S. Attorney Patrick J. Fitzgerald urging him to launch an independent federal investigation into the alleged cover-up of the tortures cases by former Chicago police Lt. Jon Burge.

The arrest of Burge this morning in Florida partly vindicates my concern and underscores Martin Luther King Jr.'s statement that, "Truth crushed to earth will rise again."

In Burge's case, the wheels of justice turned slowly, but they turned nonetheless, thanks to the persistence of many concerned citizens, journalists, lawyers and elected officials who were outraged by the despicable acts of Burge and his detectives, allegedly carried out in the name of Chicago law enforcement.

I applaud the diligent work of U.S. Attorney Patrick J. Fitzgerald in his pursuit of charges against Burge that got around the statute of limitations that had managed to allow Burge to escape justice for many years.

My heart goes out to the many torture victims who should have received equal protection under the law in spite of the fact that they may have been crime suspects. Now, justice may finally be served, and it will be determined how Burge's arrest will affect the outcome of the several lawsuits against Burge that are pending in Cook County.

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