

# SKATE ON OCTOBER 22 THE NATIONAL DAY OF PROTEST AGAINST POLICE BRUTALITY



## Starts at 4pm in Southwest Community Park

Located on Hearn Avenue & Burbank Avenue in Santa Rosa

## March to Downtown SR for a 6pm Memorial & Speaker Rally in Old Courthouse Square

[www.scdirection.org/copwatch](http://www.scdirection.org/copwatch)

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## 50 PEOPLE KILLED BY POLICE IN SONOMA COUNTY SINCE '95

In the past year alone 9 people have died at the hands of local law enforcement. From Apr. 1995 to March 1998, at least 15 people were killed by local police or died in-custody. From Jan. 2000 to Sept. 2007, at least 35 people were killed by local police or died in-custody. In a recent 9 week period, local police shot and killed 5. Two deaths resulted from 911 calls for mental health assistance by family members of people in crisis and ended in officers tragically killing both 16-year old Jeremiah Chass, and Richard Desantis, father of 2. Adding to the body count is: Haki Thurston unarmed & shot 27 times, Luis Sanchez, shot 7 times, and Walter Heller, also unarmed. In the County Jail, family pleas to get medical care for Ryan George's sickle cell anemia went ignored by the Sheriff. This 22 year-old black man then died. In the latest trend of in-custody deaths, Richard Williamson Jr. and Greg Townsley both died despite informing jail staff that they would suffer treatable symptoms of withdrawal associated with diseases of addiction. Every day, people of color, especially youth, are racially profiled by police. MAGNET - a militarized unit, led by the Sheriff, supposedly targets gang violence. Though not required by law, the Sheriff has requested that ICE (Immigration & Customs Enforcement) collaborate with MAGNET to deport people not proven guilty of crimes. Youth seeking healthy social outlet find their clubs raided and shut down by Police, as with Epiphany, a popular Santa Rosa night spot. Ineffective DUI checkpoints sweep working class neighborhoods for minor infractions, impounding cars of those who can least afford it. Local police agencies benefit financially from impounds and tickets while also benefiting through increased social control and decreased community empowerment. We believe that resisting these abuses of power is both necessary and possible. The community will be taking to the street on October 22nd. Wear black in solidarity with those who've died at the hands of law enforcement. Please join us in action and in speaking out to **Unite! Resist! Liberate!**

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