

Weekly Update (12-14-2014)

Because of the national outcry of African-Americans over police violence and African-American youth, being invited by Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine to be a part of a working group to conduct a thorough review of the quality, availability, and practical application of peace officer training, and the meetings that I have already begun as a part of a group of concerned clergy with the Akron Police Chief and Assistant Chief, I'll have a short weekly update for you.

You can go to www.BishopJohnsonMinistries.com or www.thotl.org, This Weeks Message Tab, and then Bishop Joey; or you can e-mail my wife at wwtic@thotl.org for a weekly e-mail blast.

I have a statement on Ferguson that was given on a Wednesday night.

I have a summary of our first meeting with the Police Chief.

Chief Nice has asked me to clarify a statement in my summary. The clarified statement is "When discussing the hiring of 450 police officers, the chief pointed out that it would be hard to weed out a racist if one were to apply. However, if racial bias was demonstrated, it would not be tolerated by APD and that person would be fired."

While I understand the need to raise awareness of the problem of police interaction with African-Americans and I have no judgment of people who choose to protest, I want you to be careful about violent kinds of protests that don't solve anything.

I solicit your prayers as I seek to help facilitate justice and right relationships for all.