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comments

Portland man acquitted of murder outside bar in 2012, gets probation for gun possession (http://www.oregonlive.com/)



Rodney Jones, left, speaks with his attorney during a Dec. 19 sentencing hearing in Multnomah County Circuit Court. Jones was acquitted of murder in the 2012 death of Durrell Davis and was sentenced to three years probation for being a felon in possession of a firearm. (Everton Bailey Jr./The Oregonian)

[Print \(http://blog.oregonlive.com/portland_impact/print.html?entry=/2014/12/portland_man_acquitted_of_murd.html\)](http://blog.oregonlive.com/portland_impact/print.html?entry=/2014/12/portland_man_acquitted_of_murd.html)



(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/staff/bailey-e/index.html>) By [Everton Bailey Jr.](http://connect.oregonlive.com/staff/bailey-e/posts.html) | ebailey@oregonian.com (<http://connect.oregonlive.com/staff/bailey-e/posts.html>)

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on December 19, 2014 at 4:40 PM, updated December 19, 2014 at 4:43 PM

A Portland man successfully argued this week that he **shot another man twice in the head in self-defense outside a Northeast Portland bar**

(http://www.oregonlive.com/portland/index.ssf/2012/10/reward_offered_for_ho.html) during an altercation over a woman in 2012.

A Multnomah County jury acquitted Rodney Jones of murder in the death of Durrell G. Davis, 40, near the **Top of the Hill Tavern**

(<https://www.google.com/maps/place/Top+of+the+Hill+Tavern/@45.526238,-122.527412,311t/data=!4m2!3m1!1s0x0:0xa1ce668527412311:1s0x0:0xa1ce668527412311>) on Oct. 15, 2012. Davis was found dead in the street along Northeast 92nd Place near the bar. Jones was arrested two months later and has remained in jail for about two years.

The jury convicted Jones on Wednesday of being a felon in possession of a firearm. At his sentencing hearing Friday, supporters clapped as Multnomah County Circuit Judge Jerry Hodson gave Jones three years of probation.

Jones is scheduled to be released Friday. He had been facing a minimum of 25 years in prison on the murder charge.

Jones, 37, had few words when given the opportunity by the judge to speak before his sentencing.

"I just thank everybody," he said.

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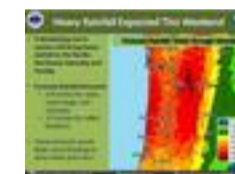
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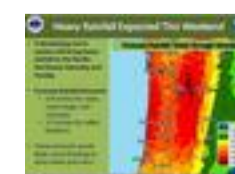
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Overwhelmed by soft opening, Forest Grove's Sugar Mommas' Bake Shop closes doors until January

(http://www.oregonlive.com/forest-grove/index.ssf/2014/12/sugar_rush_overwhelmed_by_soft_opening.html#incart_most-read)

Both Jones and Davis were in a relationship with the same woman, said Jones' attorney, John Gutbezahl.

The woman lived near the bar and told investigators that Davis had arrived at her apartment drunk and angry and attacked her on the night of the shooting, according to court documents. He left when she threatened to call police, the records said.



As Davis was leaving the area, he ran into Jones who was heading to the woman's home. Davis knew of Jones and his relationship with the woman, but Jones didn't know about Davis, Gutbezahl said.

Surveillance video from the tavern shows Davis and Jones walking past each other, then Davis turning and speaking to Jones, but not raising his hands or in the direction of Jones, the court records said.

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Durell G. Davis

Portland Police
Bureau

The camera shows Jones backing away while reaching toward a back pocket as Davis confronts him, but then both men go out of view of the video camera before the camera catches Jones running away, the court records said.

As Davis pursued Jones, Jones fired two warning shots, then shot Davis twice in the head, Gutbezahl said. Jones thought Davis may have had a knife and was afraid for his life, the lawyer said.

"The jury found it was reasonable that Mr. Jones used deadly physical force under the circumstances," he said.

Davis died at the scene. Jones got rid of the gun and fled, the court documents said. The gun's barrel had been shortened and the hammer and serial numbers had been filed off, according to the records.

When police interviewed Jones about Davis' death, he gave several different versions of events, including saying he didn't shoot anyone and that he never had a gun, investigators said. Jones later admitted to killing Davis because Davis was threatening him.

Gutbezahl said Jones initially didn't tell the truth because of a past criminal convictions in Louisiana, including a 1995 accessory after the fact to a felony armed robbery, and because he mistrusts police.

Jones was arrested Jan. 24, 2013, and held in the Multnomah County Detention Center on the firearms allegation and was **later charged in Davis' death** (http://www.oregonlive.com/portland/index.ssf/2013/02/southeast_portland_man_indicte.html).

The judge told Jones that he needs to "figure out how to change the direction of your life."

Along with being a convicted felon, Jones has a history of alcohol and drug use as well as hanging out with people who may encourage illegal activity, Hodson said. Also, the gun Jones used in the shooting, Hodson added, was modified with an apparent intent to be used in a crime.

"That's one very risky behavior you engaged in that I hope having had to sit in jail for two years that you change your ways," Hodson said.

Jones nodded along as Hodson spoke and said that he would.

-- Everton Bailey Jr.

read)



Portland teacher Madhu Braunger watches sons descend into addiction; 1 escapes, 1 doesn't

(<http://www.oregonlive.com/watchdog/index.ssf/2014/12/madhu-braunger-read>)

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Shame a man had to die over some two-timing woman. I'll never understand dudes who fight over women. There are almost 4 billion females on this planet. No reason to get worked up over any one particular woman. What a waste.
- 2  (http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/choctaw1952/index.html) (http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/thedeadtext/index.html) Like Reply
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@Burdenedbylogic (http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/Burdenedbylogic/index.html)
Although, the guy on trial didn't know she was two timing (if the narrative is to be believed.)
He just knew he came under attack by someone.
- 1  (http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/jaded49/index.html) Like Reply
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Can't argue with that take.
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See black males that shoot unarmed people can get off on self-defense claims. It's not just for white people.

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Sandy Jackson (http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/Sandy_Jackson682/index.html)
(http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/Sandy_Jackson682/index.html) 1 hour ago
So, are we going to hear about the imbalance in the justice system? A convicted felon kills an unarmed man using a gun with a filed-off serial number and all he gets is probation?

Oh, I see. Never mind.

4 <http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/jaded49/index.html> 
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chasbo44 (<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/chasbo44/index.html>) 1 hour ago
(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/chasbo44/index.html>)
@Sandy Jackson
(http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/Sandy_Jackson682/index.html) No dated photos of the smiling victim with his family, no marches or demonstrations, no family members on TV demanding justice. Pants up, don't loot!

3 <http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/choctaw1952/index.html> 
<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/jim9953/index.html> 
(http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/Sandy_Jackson682/index.html) Like Reply



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@Sandy Jackson
(http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/Sandy_Jackson682/index.html)

I thought you mopes were all over self defense.

But also against that if it involves a black man?

You RWNs are insatiable.

1 
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Sandy Jackson
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@thedeatext
(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/thedeatext/index.html>) @Sandy Jackson
(http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/Sandy_Jackson682/index.html)

I thought you mopes were all over arresting people for unlawful firearms possession...but it's okay if it involves a black man?

2 
(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/choctaw1952/index.html>) 
(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/jim9953/index.html>) Like Reply



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He was. He did 2 years and then probation.

How long do you think he should do?

Like Reply



Sandy Jackson
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@thedeatext
(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/thedeatext/index.html>) @Sandy Jackson
(http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/Sandy_Jackson682/index.html)

He chose to delay his trial for two years. He chose to stay in jail. It was not a sentence.

Besides, according to you he should have been convicted of murder.

1 

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thedeatext
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@Sandy Jackson (1 hour ago)
(http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/Sandy_Jackson682/index.html) @thedeatext
(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/thedeatext/index.html>)

Time served. It is how the system works.

If you don't want it to work that way, then you can't hold people in prison until trial.

You can have it one way or the other, not both.

Like Reply



Sandy Jackson
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@thedeatext (1 hour ago)
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(http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/Sandy_Jackson682/index.html)

You have a constitutional right to a speedy trial...but it can take two years if you keep delaying it. Your choice.

1 

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And all time served counts.

He did 2 years for possession of a firearm.

Seems about right.

Like Reply



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@thedeatext (1 hour ago)
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(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/thedeatext/index.html>) @Sandy Jackson
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What? What about the murder charge?? Where is the justice? He shot an UNARMED MAN who had his HANDS UP!!!!

HANDS UP, DON'T SHOOT!!!

Like Reply



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I thought we already determined that was legal to do now?

You can shoot people for pretty much any reason today.

Because Merica!

Like Reply



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1 hour ago

~~(http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/Sandy_Jackson682/index.html)~~
@thedeadtext
(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/thedeadtext/index.html>) @Sandy Jackson
(http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/Sandy_Jackson682/index.html)

Glad to hear you admit that it can be reasonable to shoot an unarmed man with his hands up.

1

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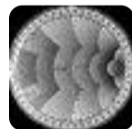
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Up, down.. it doesn't matter.

Just shoot.

But good LORD it better not be a white dude.

Like Reply



Louie Goodman
(http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/Lou_Goodman/index.html)

1 hour ago

~~(http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/Lou_Goodman/index.html)~~
@thedeadtext
(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/thedeadtext/index.html>)

Sandy is just sad he cant pull his pants up without the the help of a mirror, and his gun was lost somewhere in his beer belly/ love handles long ago.

It might be in his navel. He would need his mom and some of the dudes from Les Schwab to extricate it , if the lift will hold that much weight.

They could (alternately) roll him in flour and look for the wet spot

1

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~~(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/thedeadtext/index.html>)~~
@Louie Goodman
(http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/Lou_Goodman/index.html) @thedeadtext
(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/thedeadtext/index.html>)

That last line ... I actually did laugh out loud.

Like Reply



Uncle Duke (http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/Uncle_Duke/index.html)
(http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/Uncle_Duke/index.html)

1 hour ago

@Sandy Jackson
(http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/Sandy_Jackson682/index.html)
You're unhappy that a gun owner got away with shooting someone?

Like Reply



Sandy Jackson
(http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/Sandy_Jackson682/index.html)

1 hour ago

@Uncle Duke
(http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/Uncle_Duke/index.html) **@Sandy Jackson**
(http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/Sandy_Jackson682/index.html)

You evidently missed the part where he was a convicted felon, illegally possessed a firearm with an obliterated serial number, and fled from the scene.

Typical Democrat behavior.

1 

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RA Hamilton
(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/RAHamilton/index.html>)

7 minutes ago

@Sandy Jackson
(http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/Sandy_Jackson682/index.html) **@Uncle Duke**
(http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/Uncle_Duke/index.html)

And you missed the part where he was sentenced for his crime.

Like Reply



Yin Yang (<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/YangYin/index.html>) 2 hours ago
(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/YangYin/index.html>)

The jury convicted Jones on Wednesday of being a felon in possession of a firearm. Right there is a big problem. A convicted felon should *never ever* get probation for firearms possession. Never. Under any circumstances. You cannot stop the plague of gang firearms violence in the minority community when you give a slap on the wrist to felons in possession of a gun. Someone else is going to die because judge Hodson gave Jones probation for felon gun possession. This kind of outrageous sentence may make the NRA happy but not the rest of us.

1  (<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/choctaw1952/index.html>) Like Reply



chasbo44 (<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/chasbo44/index.html>) 2 hours ago
(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/chasbo44/index.html>)

@Yin Yang (<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/YangYin/index.html>) Actually, the NRA is all for guys like this going to prison. Their fundamental argument is that we need to enforce the existing laws for criminals, rather than make new ones for legal gun owners. I agree with you the sentence should have been stiffer.

3  (<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/jim9953/index.html>) 

(http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/Sandy_Jackson682/index.html) 

(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/choctaw1952/index.html>) Like Reply



OreOre (<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/ZyOregon/index.html>) 2 hours ago
(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/ZyOregon/index.html>)

@Yin Yang (<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/YangYin/index.html>) Ended up just unlawful possession. If he had been found guilty of a crime and unlawful possession, he would be in prison for a while.

Like Reply



Sandy Jackson
(http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/Sandy_Jackson682/index.html)

1 hour ago

@OreOre
(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/ZyOregon/index.html>) **@Yin Yang**
(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/YangYin/index.html>)

Felon in possession of a firearm is a class C felony. In case you didn't know, that IS a crime.

Like Reply



thedeatext
(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/thedeatext/index.html>)

1 hour ago

@Sandy Jackson
(http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/Sandy_Jackson682/index.html) **@OreOre**
(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/ZyOregon/index.html>) **@Yin Yang**
(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/YangYin/index.html>)

He did 2 years.

What, you want a life sentence?

His having access to a firearm seems to have saved his life.

Like Reply



Sandy Jackson
(http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/Sandy_Jackson682/index.html)

1 hour ago

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@~~thedeadtext~~
(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/thedeadtext/index.html>) @Sandy Jackson
(http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/Sandy_Jackson682/index.html) @OreOre
(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/ZyOregon/index.html>) @Yin Yang
(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/YangYin/index.html>)

His victim was unarmed and drunk. You saying that's a reasonable use of force? interesting.

Like Reply



thedeadtext
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1 hour ago

@Sandy Jackson
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(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/ZyOregon/index.html>) @Yin Yang
(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/YangYin/index.html>)

It sure is for the police, people in Florida, etc.

Remember, it is the perception, not the reality.

That is how we get to shoot guys holding toy guns in the toy department and sitting in playgrounds legally.

Like Reply



Sandy Jackson
(http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/Sandy_Jackson682/index.html)

1 hour ago

~~(http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/Sandy_Jackson682/index.html)~~
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(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/ZyOregon/index.html>) @Yin Yang
(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/YangYin/index.html>)

So you're saying that shooting unarmed drunk people is a reasonable use of force?

Like Reply



thedeadtext
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1 hour ago

@Sandy Jackson
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(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/thedeadtext/index.html>) @OreOre
(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/ZyOregon/index.html>) @Yin Yang
(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/YangYin/index.html>)

In todays world, it seems to be.

Don't even have to be drunk. Or shot.

Ask the guy that got choked to death for selling ciggs or the homeless man that was beat to death.

Like Reply



Sandy Jackson
(http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/Sandy_Jackson682/index.html)

1 hour ago

@thedeatext
(http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/Sandy_Jackson682/index.html)
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Copy. I'll remember that for next time.

Like Reply



Sandy Jackson
(http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/Sandy_Jackson682/index.html)

2 hours ago

@Yin Yang (<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/YangYin/index.html>)

Not only that, but also having the serial number removed... a federal felony.

Your hatred of the NRA has skewed your judgment. The NRA wants people like Jones serving long sentences.

2 (<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/jim9953/index.html>)

(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/choctaw1952/index.html>) Like Reply



thedeatext (<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/thedeatext/index.html>)
(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/thedeatext/index.html>)

1 hour ago

@Yin Yang (<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/YangYin/index.html>)

Probation and the 2 years already served.

Like Reply



Sandy Jackson
(http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/Sandy_Jackson682/index.html)

1 hour ago

@thedeatext
(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/thedeatext/index.html>)
@Yin Yang
(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/YangYin/index.html>)

Jones is the one who chose to delay his trial for two years.

Like Reply



thedeatext
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1 hour ago

@Sandy Jackson
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(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/YangYin/index.html>)

Time served. Let him out or it counts.

shrug

Like Reply



Sandy Jackson
(http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/Sandy_Jackson682/index.html)

1 hour ago

@thedeatext
(http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/Sandy_Jackson682/index.html)
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(http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/Sandy_Jackson682/index.html) @Yin Yang
(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/YangYin/index.html>)

HE CHOSE IT. Pfft.

Like Reply



thedeadtext
(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/thedeadtext/index.html>)

1 hour ago

@Sandy Jackson
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Then let him out.

Or count the time.

shrug

Like Reply



Sandy Jackson
(http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/Sandy_Jackson682/index.html)

1 hour ago

(http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/Sandy_Jackson682/index.html)

@thedeadtext
(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/thedeadtext/index.html>) @Sandy Jackson
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Don't delay your trial or you'll do more time.

Pffft.

Like Reply



thedeadtext
(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/thedeadtext/index.html>)

1 hour ago

@Sandy Jackson
(http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/Sandy_Jackson682/index.html) @thedeadtext
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(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/YangYin/index.html>)

Don't hold people in prison before they are found guilty and you won't have to count time served.

Like Reply



Sandy Jackson
(http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/Sandy_Jackson682/index.html)

1 hour ago

(http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/Sandy_Jackson682/index.html)

@thedeadtext
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(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/YangYin/index.html>)

Can't go to prison without being convicted. You're new to this, aren't you? You don't seem to have much of a handle on how the criminal justice system works.

Like Reply



thedeadtext
(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/thedeadtext/index.html>)

1 hour ago

@Sandy Jackson
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(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/YangYin/index.html>)

"Jail" then.

I don't differentiate.

How about this (I am trying to slow down for you)...

"Don't hold people in confined spaces against their will while they wait for a trial if you wish to not have time served applied to any future conviction."

Like Reply



The Scholar (<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/Erudito/index.html>)
(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/Erudito/index.html>)

2 hours ago

Where are the ministers of peace & justice? Will Jones be counted in the statistics of "The New Jim Crow"?

Like Reply



interbeav (<http://connect./user/interbeav/index.html>)
(<http://connect./user/interbeav/index.html>)

2 hours ago

Something tells me that Jesse Jackson and Al Sharpton won't have anything to say...

3 [jim9953](http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/jim9953/index.html) (<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/jim9953/index.html>)

[choctaw1952](http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/choctaw1952/index.html) (<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/choctaw1952/index.html>)

[edward_thomas](http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/edward_thomas/index.html) (http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/edward_thomas/index.html) Like Reply



OreOre (<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/ZyOregon/index.html>)
(<http://connect.oregonlive.com/user/ZyOregon/index.html>)

2 hours ago

@interbeav (<http://connect./user/interbeav/index.html>) Ted Cruz and Marco Rubio probably won't either.

Like Reply

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