

Mondaire Jones Is A Radical Who Said That We Need To “Defund The Police.” Jones Went To Far As To Say That Most Police Officers Are Racist And That He Would Refuse Their Support In His Campaign

In 2020, Jones Repeatedly Supported Efforts To Defund The Police And Has Criticized Levels Of Police Spending

VIDEO: In June 2020, Jones Noted: “Of Course We Need To End Mass Incarceration And Legalize Cannabis And Defund The Police.” (Food & Water Watch, “We’re Talking With Mondaire Jones And Jamaal Bowman,” [YouTube](#), Posted 6/25/20; Minute 20:10)

VIDEO: In July 2020, Jones Noted “Let Me Go Back And Say We Need To, You Know, Talk About Defunding The Police, Cutting That Funding And Reallocating It To Social Workers, And Youth Employment.” (Katie Halper, “Mondaire Jones, Ali Abunimah & Matt Karp,” [YouTube](#), Posted 7/8/20; Minute 56:25)

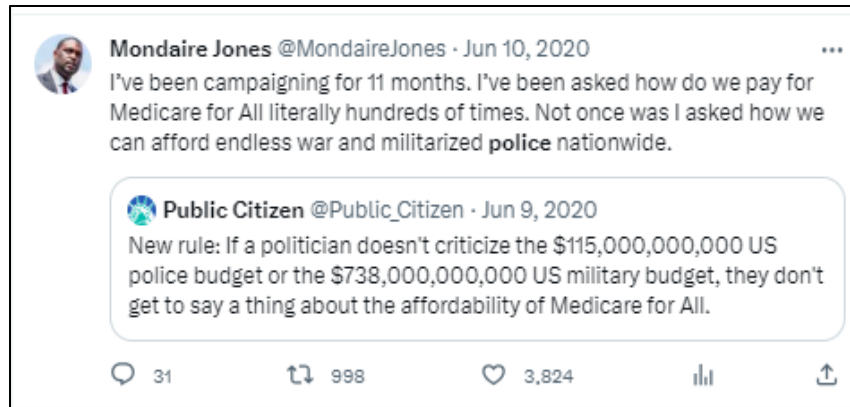
Jones, In 2020: “We Must Dismantle White Supremacy In All Aspects Of Our Society, And That Means Moving Funding Away From Police Departments And Toward Programs That Improve Public Safety By Helping To Address The Roots Of Systemic Inequality.” “To truly address the root of police violence, we must go far beyond reforming our criminal legal system. We must dismantle white supremacy in all aspects of our society, and that means moving funding away from police departments and toward programs that improve public safety by helping to address the roots of systemic inequality. Programs that support affordable housing, quality public education, employment, and health care are far more effective ways to provide safety and security to communities, but they are being cut in favor of expanding police budgets in cities across the country. If state and local governments refuse to provide for their citizens, the federal government must. This wholesale reimagining of our public institutions will take political leadership willing to stand up for racial justice — not just after national outcries, but always. Take my election, for example. My competition in the Democratic Primary could not even be bothered to pay lip service to racial justice before protests broke out in New York on May 28. In a field of seven candidates, I was the only one to have a criminal-justice reform policy plan before protests began. My opponents who are sitting New York State legislators did not support police-reform bills, including the repeal of 50-a, until after the protests early this month.” (Mondaire Jones, “Mondaire Jones, New York Congressional Candidate, Wants To Fight Systemic Racism,” [Teen Vogue](#), 6/18/20)

- **“Jones Also Supported Defunding The Police, As He Put It In A Joint Appearance With Bowman On A Panel: “We Have To Make Sure That We Have A Broad Conception Of Systemic Racism. It Cannot Just Be Confined To Individual Instances Of Police Officers Killing Unarmed Black And Brown People In This Country,” He Said. “And Of Course, We Need To End Mass Incarceration And Legalize Cannabis And Defund The Police.”** “As Black Lives Matter protests stretched out that summer, Jones appeared at events with Bowman and flexed his endorsements in mailers blasted throughout the district, touting his support for a Green New Deal and Medicare for All. Jones also supported defunding the police, as he put it in a joint appearance with Bowman on a panel: “We have to make sure that we have a broad conception of systemic racism. It cannot just be confined to individual instances of police officers killing unarmed Black and brown people in this country,” he said. “And of course, we need to end mass incarceration and legalize cannabis and defund the police.” (Timmy Facciola, “Ex-Rebel With A Cause Mondaire Jones Wants Back In Congress, And That Means Making Nice With The Democratic Establishment,” [New York Magazine](#), 8/8/23)

In June 2020, Jones Notes He Supports “Defunding Police And Reinvesting This Money In Health, Education, And Alternatives To Incarceration.” “A suite of criminal justice reforms to redress racial inequalities and harms in our justice system, including repealing the 1994 crime bill that fueled mass incarceration, defunding police and reinvesting this money in health, education, and alternatives to incarceration, eliminating mandatory minimums in sentencing,

legalizing cannabis, and banning the box in employment applications.” (Lanning Taliaferro, “Candidate Profile: Mondaire Jones For Congress,” [Patch](#), 6/15/20)

In 2020, Jones Noted His Opposition To The Current Levels Of Police Spending Nationwide At \$115 Billion. (Mondaire Jones, [Twitter](#), 6/10/20)



(Mondaire Jones, [Twitter](#), 6/10/20)

In 2022, Jones Began To Pivot Away From His Support For Defunding The Police, Claiming Black Americans Don't Want Police Officers Out Of Their Communities

However, In 2022, Jones Began To Pivot Away From Defund The Police Rhetoric Noting “Black Americans Don't Want To Send Police Officers Out Of Their Communities.”

“With a re-election looming in a foreign district, Jones apparently saw the writing on the wall. When asked in a HuffPost interview last week about if there was a ‘specific rhetorical phrase that ... progressives have employed that hurts more than it helps,’ his response was blunt. ‘You’ve got leaders of the [Working Families Party] saying ‘defund the police’ was not the best phrase to articulate a vision for how to move toward humane, more effective policing that doesn’t brutalize black and brown communities while still keeping them safe,’ he said. ‘Black Americans don’t want to send police officers out of their communities,’ he added after President Biden’s 2022 State of the Union address in which he called for funding police departments. ‘It’s about polling,’ Guardian Angels founder and former mayoral candidate Curtis Sliwa told The Post. ‘His consultants are telling him, hey you gotta start moving toward the center.’ Jones is one of many Democrats who have pivoted on the issue.” (Jon Levine, “Rep. Mondaire Jones Changes Tune On Defund The Police,” [New York Post](#), 7/2/22)

In 2023, Jones Attempted To Underscore His Support For The Police. “Three years after he won that race, and after effectively being pushed out of his district only to lose a bid to represent Brooklyn, Jones launched his third bid for Congress with a campaign ad that shows him in a different light: shaking hands with the police chief of Pound Ridge, who says, ‘I’ve worked in law enforcement in the Hudson Valley for just about 40 years. We do not get the funding they get in the city. Mondaire Jones listened and funded the police.’” (Timmy Facciola, “Ex-Rebel With A Cause Mondaire Jones Wants Back In Congress, And That Means Making Nice With The Democratic Establishment.,” [New York Magazine](#), 8/8/23)

In 2023, Jones Claimed “Defund The Police” Is A “Really Stupid” Slogan, But Still Supported Reallocating Money From Police To Mental-Health Services

Currently, Jones Claims “What He Really Meant Back In 2020 Was A Reallocation Of Money From Police Funds To Mental-Health Services”; Jones Further Claims That “Defund The Police” Is A “Really Stupid” Slogan. “While picking at his gyro platter at a Greek restaurant in Tarrytown last month, Jones explained that what he really meant back in 2020 was a reallocation of money from police funds to mental-health services. Either way, last year the GOP knocked out four New York congressional incumbents and took control of the House, thanks, in part, to campaigning against some Democrats’ support of defund and cashless bail. ‘On the scale of really stupid slogans that don’t convey what it is that you intend, it has got to be extremely high on the list,’

he told me.” (Timmy Facciola, “Ex-Rebel With A Cause Mondaire Jones Wants Back In Congress, And That Means Making Nice With The Democratic Establishment.,” [New York Magazine](#), 8/8/23)

Jones’ Primary Opponent Appeared To Criticize His Support For Defunding The Police

“Gereghy Is Reluctant To Take Digs At Her Opponent, But She Did Suggest Jones’s Previous Use Of ‘Defund The Police’ Was Reason Enough For Voters To Choose Her Instead.” “Gereghy is reluctant to take digs at her opponent, but she did suggest Jones’s previous use of ‘defund the police’ was reason enough for voters to choose her instead. If that isn’t, then, in her opinion, Jones’s move to Brooklyn ought to be, suggesting he abandoned the district. ‘Anyone paying attention to what happened last year knows that I didn’t just wake up one day and decide not to represent my district,’ Jones told me.” (Timmy Facciola, “Ex-Rebel With A Cause Mondaire Jones Wants Back In Congress, And That Means Making Nice With The Democratic Establishment.,” [New York Magazine](#), 8/8/23)

Jones Has Repeatedly Claimed Police Officers Were Racist And Claimed They Kill With Impunity

Jones: “We Are Tired Of Having To March, Protest, And Riot To Get Justice From A Criminal Legal System Whose Job It Is To Deliver It. And We Are Tired Of Watching Police Officers Brutalize And Kill Us With Impunity.” “These last few weeks, it has been especially difficult to be Black in America. I’d be lying if I said I haven’t cried often in between rallying my suburban community for justice and campaigning for Congress. Black Americans like me are constantly re-traumatized by stories and images of violence against Black people, and by a president who openly encourages white supremacists. We are tired of having to march, protest, and riot to get justice from a criminal legal system whose job it is to deliver it. And we are tired of watching police officers brutalize and kill us with impunity.” (Mondaire Jones, “Mondaire Jones, New York Congressional Candidate, Wants To Fight Systemic Racism,” [Teen Vogue](#), 6/18/20)

Jones: “Don’t Say, “I Can’t Believe This Is Happening In America.” For Black People, The Prospect Of Lethal Violence From Police Acting With Impunity Is America.” (Mondaire Jones, [Twitter](#), 6/3/20)



(Mondaire Jones, [Twitter](#), 6/3/20)

VIDEO: In July 2020, Jones Claims That Police Officers On The Street Are “Oftentimes” Racist Against Blacks. “JONES: Hell, interacting with police officers on the street who don’t care how much money you have if you’re black oftentimes.” (Katie Halper, “Mondaire Jones, Ali Abunimah & Matt Karp,” [YouTube](#), Posted 7/8/20; Minute 59:35)

VIDEO: Jones: “Systemic Racism Is Not Just The Unauthorized Killing Of Black People By Racists In Law Enforcement.” (Mondaire Jones, [Twitter](#), 6/7/20)

Mondaire Jones @MondaireJones · Jun 7, 2020

Early today, we were in Irvington, where many hundreds rallied for black lives.

The people here know that when we say [#BlackLivesMatter](#), we have to mean that sincerely, and we must do the important work of dismantling white supremacy in all aspects of our society.



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(Mondaire Jones, [Twitter](#), 6/7/20)