Can Trayvon Martinâ€™s Case Start Protests?

By Andrew J Blake

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Twenty years ago, the United States has witnessed one of the most violent and destructive riots. These riots started as a result of the brutal beating of Rodney King, an African American motorist. Kingâ€™s aggressors were three white and one Hispanic police officers and the whole incident was caught on tape. Despite the beating being caught on tape, the four police officers were still cleared of all charges which caused the community to take the fight to the streets of Los Angeles.

During the six days of riots, the streets of L.A as well as those throughout the nation have witnessed a large number of protesters that outnumbered the police force by far. By the second day of the riots, the Los Angeles Police Department retreated and reinforcements from the California Highway Patrol and National Guard were called in to bring the situation back to normal. The six days of riots have left behind 1 billion dollars in property damages, 53 casualties and thousands injured.

On the 20th anniversary of the deadly L.A. riots, the recent fatal shooting of Trayvon Martin raises lots of questions and even parallels between the those cases. A local Los Angeles criminal lawyer that represented a client for a felony DUI offense on the day the four police officers were acquitted in Rodney Kingâ€™s case commented on the similarities between the two cases. He said that the two cases are different despite what is apparent at a first glance and the court will treat them like it is meant to, in a completely different manner.

Another Los Angeles criminal attorney, Jose Baez, believes that the main concern of the authorities at this moment in time must be keeping Zimmerman safe from the public. His current location is unknown to the public and the authorities keep him under surveillance and continue to move him so he doesnâ€™t get noticed and to avoid any acts of violence against him.

Unfortunately for Trayvonâ€™s family, this kind of case takes months or even years to reach a final verdict.

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