



## **Minnesota Alliance on Crime**

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### **Statement on the Death of George Floyd at the Hands of Minneapolis Police Department Officers**

The Minnesota Alliance on Crime (MAC) is deeply saddened and angered by the actions of Minneapolis Police Department (MPD) officers that caused the death of George Floyd. On May 25, 2020, a video taken by a witness reveals that Derek Chauvin, a white MPD officer, used excessive and force that caused the tragic death of Mr. Floyd, a Black man. The video also shows the willful choice, of officers Derek Chauvin, Tou Thao, and other MPD officers on site, to ignore Mr. Floyd's cries for help when he was no longer able to breathe comfortably and eventually was rendered unconscious. Mr. Floyd was transported to a hospital and died. The four officers involved have been fired.

This horrifying incident shines a glaring light on the fact that the very institution charged to "Protect and Serve" **ALL** community members is responsible for perpetrating ongoing violence and oppression against community members who are Black and Brown. Black men continue to die at the hands of the Minneapolis Police Department.

MAC opposes the use of all forms of violence and affirms the basic human right of every person to live without fear or the threat of victimization throughout the course of one's life.

MAC seeks a criminal legal system that is fair and accessible to ALL community members, especially those who are most marginalized.

MAC stands in solidarity with efforts in Minnesota to end all forms of institutionalized discrimination, exploitation, victimization, oppression, and violence.

MAC recognizes that forms of oppression based on race, ethnicity, nationality, and immigration status create a climate of white supremacy and white nationalism that facilitates the use of ongoing institutionally sanctioned violence and victimization.

MAC calls on Medaria Arradondo, Minneapolis Chief of Police, and Jacob Frey, Minneapolis Mayor, to respond immediately with a plan to address the rampant racism that exists within the institution of the MPD and to listen to community leaders who know best how to police their communities in a safe and humane way.

MAC further calls on all agencies investigating the actions of all officers involved to hold them accountable to the greatest degree possible. The entire state and nation are watching, unfortunately again, while decisions are made regarding what the life of a Black male community member is worth. Being Black and Brown should not be a death sentence in Minnesota.

MAC urges our 92 member programs throughout Minnesota to stand together in protest against this incident and against the violence and oppression our state's Black and Brown people unfortunately face on a daily basis.