

MOSES Statement on the Chauvin Verdict

April 20, 2021

We take a deep breath after Chauvin's guilty verdict on all counts as a turning point in a system of injustice and lack of accountability that has plagued our country for too long.

But true justice would be a country where we can all feel safe in our communities and live without fear that those sworn to serve and protect will kill us just for existing. We all want to be free to safely walk in our neighborhoods, play in our yards or sleep in our beds without fear of the police.

Last summer, our communities came together from Minneapolis to rural Kansas to Paris to fight for justice for those killed and brutalized at the hands of police, greater accountability in law enforcement, and sweeping cultural change.

George Floyd did not deserve to die over \$20. He deserved a life free from racialized state violence, white supremacy, and cruelty by law enforcement. We owe it to him and every other Black life lost at the hands of the police to continue pushing for disinvestment from our violent police state and investment into alternatives to public safety and human infrastructure that builds a path of economic equity for all of us.

One trial and one rightful verdict will not mean a return to the status quo. Since the Chauvin trial began on March 29, at least 64 people have died at the hands of law enforcement around the country. Blacks and Latinos represent more than half of those deaths. This is the daily reality of what it means to be Black and brown in America. We will continue to make our voices louder, hold policymakers accountable, and take on-the-ground action with peaceful protest, strategic organizing, and voter mobilization until we bring about bold, transformative systemic change.

We will continue to fight for safety for all of our families, including an accountable justice system, reimagined public safety, affordable housing, well-paying jobs, access to good education, a path to citizenship for all, access to health care, and mental health services.