

May 31, 2020

The Organization of Young Filipino Americans writes this statement in solidarity with the Black community.

George Floyd, an unarmed Black man, was killed by a police officer in Minneapolis on May 25, 2020, but Mr. Floyd's death is not the first as a result of state abuse of power. Ahmaud Arbery, a young Black man jogging in his neighborhood of Brunswick, was murdered on February 23, 2020. Breonna Taylor, a Louisville EMT and aspiring nurse, was killed by police during a no-knock raid of her home on March 13, 2020. This cycle that has victimized Black lives persists while many continue to fight against the injustices that the Black community faces.

Historically, the Black community has been oppressed by actions and complacency that empower white supremacy, and the Black Lives Matter movement was formed in response to this systematic oppression that incites harm and violence against Black people. Until this existing system is reconstructed into one that consistently protects the basic human rights of Black people, we cannot say that all lives matter when Black lives are continuously marginalized. Further detail on the Black Lives Matter movement can be found at [blacklivesmatter.com](https://blacklivesmatter.com).

As members of the Asian/Pacific Islander/Desi American community, we need to initiate the denouncement of anti-Blackness that exists within all of the spaces we occupy. The presence of the Asian-American police officer, Tou Thao, at the murder of George Floyd serves as a greater metaphor for the Asian-American community's silence and complacency in the many acts of racial injustice against our Black peers. We must recognize and reject the privilege that hegemony affords us in order to change the racist system that exists in America today.

This is not an issue that can be changed overnight or by a single group or individual as it is a problem that has perpetuated for so long. Therefore, we all must aim to actively reform racist and anti-Black behaviors and mindsets by amplifying Black voices; sharing resources within circles; donating to relief funds, if the means are available; signing petitions that help garner more public awareness; contacting government representatives; and checking in on Black peers in order to show solidarity with the Black community.

Attached is a list of resources to learn from, donate to, and utilize in order to better support our Black peers. By no means is this an exhaustive list, but we do encourage making use of these opportunities to not only say we have taken action, but to productively contribute to the ongoing battle against racism, discrimination, and anti-Blackness.

In solidarity,  
The Organization of Young Filipino Americans

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## ACTIONS

- Call (612) 324-4499 to contact local Minneapolis and Minnesota authorities.
- Text “FLOYD” to 551-56 to demand justice for George Floyd.
- Text “ENOUGH” to 551-56 to demand justice for Breona Taylor.
- Text “JUSTICE” to 551-56 to demand responsibility be taken by the District Attorneys.

## FUNDS

- [Official George Floyd Memorial Fund](#)
- [Richmond Bail Fund](#)
  - A community bail fund that provides cash bail to defendants who cannot afford to pay it.
- [Congregate Charlottesville](#)
  - A non-profit dedicated to providing educational resources rooted in faith, action oriented, and inspired by justice and liberation theologies; serves to educate, equip, and prepare people of faith to bear public witness to injustice.
- [Black Visions Collective](#)
  - A Black-led, Queer, and Trans centered organization aiming to dismantle systems of violence through strategic campaigns, narrative organizing, and Black leadership.
- [Reclaim the Block](#)
  - A community coalition of activists, organizers, and faith leaders investing in long-term alternatives to decrease the scope of the Minneapolis Police Department (MPD).
- [Louisville Bail Fund](#)
  - An organization providing bail-relief funds to low income individuals as well as post-release support such as food, shelter, and safety.
- [North Star Health Collective](#)
  - A group of street medics, radical health organizers, and community health trainers providing medic support to community organizers.
- [Minnesota Freedom Fund](#)
  - A community based nonprofit that pays bail for low-income individuals who do not represent a threat to the community.

## PETITIONS

- <https://petitions.whitehouse.gov/petition/justice-george-floyd-0>
  - Sign to call for the prosecution of Derek Chauvin, Thomas Lane, Tou Thao, and J Alexander Kueng, the officers who were involved in George Floyd’s murder.
- [https://act.colorofchange.org/sign/justiceforfloyd\\_george\\_floyd\\_minneapolis](https://act.colorofchange.org/sign/justiceforfloyd_george_floyd_minneapolis)
  - Sign and film an optional 30-second video calling for the involved officers be charged with Mr. Floyd’s murder.
- <https://www.change.org/p/mayor-jacob-frey-justice-for-george-floyd>

- Sign this to help gain the attention of Mayor Jacob Frey and DA Mike Freeman to push for the proper arrest and sentencing of the officers who were involved in Mr. Floyd's murder.

## READINGS

- [Beyond the Hashtag: How to Take Anti-Racist Action in Your Life](#) - written by Zyahna Bryant, UVA student and Charlottesville community organizer
- [#blacklivesmatter](#) - a collection of resources by UVA Organization of African Students (OAS) to support the Black community
- [Mapping Police Violence](#)
- [“In 1965, the city of Charlottesville demolished a thriving \[B\]lack neighborhood”](#)
- [“‘You Are Still Black’: Charlottesville’s Racial Divide Hinders Students”](#)

## ADDITIONAL

- [Mountains that Take Wing](#) - “Angela Davis & Yuri Kochiyama offers audiences the gift of these remarkable women's lives and their conversations about life, individual and community strategies to resist oppression, and their steadfast resolve that a more just and humane world is not only possible, but vital.”