



SAN JOSÉ-EVERGREEN COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT RESOLUTION No. 060920-2

RESOLUTION CALLING FOR JUSTICE IN THE KILLINGS OF GEORGE FLOYD AND OTHER BLACK CITIZENS AT THE HANDS OF POLICE OFFICERS AND CONDEMNATION OF HISTORIC AND ONGOING POLICE BRUTALITY, RACIAL PROFILING AND EXCESSIVE AND MILITARIZED USE OF FORCE

WHEREAS, on Memorial Day, Monday, May 25, 2020, George Floyd, a 46-year-old, unarmed black father and son, was brutally killed by Derek Chauvin, a white Minneapolis police officer;

WHEREAS, George Floyd, hands cuffed behind him, was face down on the street pavement, while Officer Chauvin shoved his knee into Mr. Floyd's neck, keeping the pressure constant;

WHEREAS, this method of restraint, which was not protocol for Minneapolis police officers and is banned by most metropolitan police departments, was unjustifiable given Mr. Floyd was not resisting nor a threat in the prone position;

WHEREAS, two other police officers, Thomas Lane and J. Alexander Kueng, appeared to apply additional pressure to Mr. Floyd's torso and legs while another officer, Tou Thao, looked on, also failing to intervene;

WHEREAS, George Floyd repeatedly gasped for air, calling out in distress, "I can't breathe" as officer Chauvin continued to apply pressure to George Floyd's neck;

WHEREAS, George Floyd cried out for his deceased mother in the final minutes of his life as Officer Chauvin continued applying pressure to his neck for a total of 8 minutes and 46 seconds, according to the filed criminal complaint, removing his knee only at the insistence of the paramedics;

WHEREAS, the brutal killing of George Floyd leaves behind four children; a 6-year old daughter and two older sons and another daughter, in addition to family members and friends;

WHEREAS, George Floyd's killing is only the latest, within a short period of time, including Sean Reed (May 11), Breonna Taylor (March 13), and Ahmaud Arbery (February 23), all of whom died at the hands of police officers and white citizens;

WHEREAS, the horrific videos of George Floyd's death triggered protests of outrage on the night of his killing, first in Minneapolis and then in cities across the United States and the world;

WHEREAS, these protests and uprisings are borne out of a long and ugly history of racism and racist policing practices that have institutionalized excessive force, killing, harassment and intimidation as the norm for black men and women, most often resulting with impunity;

WHEREAS, we are in support and in solidarity with the millions of peaceful protestors across this nation as they express their sorrow, fear, anger, outrage, re-lived trauma and fatigue that they, like so many of us, are feeling at this time while we simultaneously call for the protection of the right to protest;

WHEREAS, these protests have occurred steps away from our San José district office involving current and former students as well as other people who could easily be our future students;

WHEREAS, we need to reassure our students and the community we serve that we will work together to eradicate from our institutions the bigotry, racism and unequal treatment that serves to justify the inhumane treatment and killing of blacks;

WHEREAS, our values of Opportunity, Equity and Social Justice cannot be hollow words devoid of collective and individual actions and decisions that truly support and advance our black brothers and sisters;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the San José-Evergreen Community College District, call for justice in the killing of George Floyd and other victims of deadly police brutality; condemn historic and ongoing police brutality, racial profiling and excessive and militarized use of force; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we reaffirm our commitment to eradicating the bigotry, racism and unequal treatment that serves to justify inhumane treatment, police brutality and the killing of blacks; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that our Board and District will immediately pursue actions within our employee ranks, with other institutions, organizations, businesses, and individuals committed to stopping ongoing police brutality, racial profiling and excessive and militarized use of unwarranted force; and that these efforts could include, but should not be limited to, the following, many of which were provided by our San José City College [Ethnic Studies Department](#) and our Evergreen Valley College [Service-Learning & Public Service Program](#);

- Contributing to grassroots organizations that are currently on the ground protesting and supporting protesters including the [Minnesota Freedom Fund](#), [Black Visions Collective](#), [Louisville Community Bail Fund](#), [Columbus Freedom Fund](#) as well as local police accountability efforts through [Silicon Valley DeBug](#).
- Supporting the petitions and memorial funds seeking justice for [George](#), [Breonna](#), [Sean](#), [Tony](#), and [Ahmaud](#).
- Helping to protect local protesters by providing them with needed supplies, including water, food, masks, unmarked clothing, hand sanitizer and [bottles of baking soda with water](#) to help neutralize tear gas.
- Being mindful of specific language. Words like *riot*, *rioting*, *rioters*, *looting*, and *looters* are racialized and used to criminalize black communities. Consider others words like *uprise*, *uprising*, and *uprisers*. To *uprise* is to ascend--it is the practice of standing up against violence and one's own and community's dehumanization.

- Sharing information about local black mental health, support, and community services from [Ujima Adult & Family Services](#), [Black Leadership Kitchen Cabinet of Silicon Valley](#), and the [African American Community Services Agency of San Jose](#).
- Listening to black people with humility and [raw openness](#).
- Reading and implementing [75 Things White People Can Do for Racial Justice](#).
- Taking action through [ADHOC](#).
- Ensuring that our SJECCD programs, trainings and services are designed to further develop culturally competent students and employees who will contribute to and advance our values of Opportunity, Equity and Social Justice.
- Contributing to [grassroots law project](#).
- Providing safe, healing places where students can express their fears, frustrations and ideas to be supported, heard and further educated.
- Providing safe, healing places where staff, faculty and administrators can do the same.
- Providing safe, healing places where the community can do the same.
- Educating people about the importance of voting and participating in politics, especially at the local level where criminal justice and policing practice are developed.
- Providing access to books, readings and other materials on racism and police brutality; and

any other such resources and support that the colleges, District and Trustees may deem necessary to support the black community.

THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the San José-Evergreen Community College District Board of Trustees approves and adopts this resolution on this 9th day of June, 2020 by the following vote:

AYES 7

NOES 0

ABSTENSIONS 0

Presented on this 9th day of June, 2020


 Byron D. Clift Breland (Jun 10, 2020 15:35 PDT)

Dr. Byron D.Clift Breland
 Board Secretary



Wendy Ho
 Board President