



Queens County Bar Association

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NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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In the aftermath of the tragic death of Mr. George Floyd and the protests that have ensued within New York State, across the nation, and worldwide, the Board of Directors of the Queens County Bar Association issue the following statement:

As part of our mission, the Queens County Bar Association exists to provide public outreach and education. The Association endeavors to facilitate cooperation among its members, and promote diversity and inclusion within the legal community.

In the spirit of our mission as a Bar Association and the oath that we took as attorneys to uphold the laws of the State of New York and the Constitution of our country, the Queens County Bar Association condemns the killing of Mr. Floyd as an egregious act of violence. Law enforcement officers are granted the power and authority to protect and serve our community. Senseless acts of violence perpetrated by those representing our government erodes public trust in our police department and government, and casts a dark shadow over our society as a whole. We must hold those who violate the law and public trust accountable.

Over 150 years have passed since Abraham Lincoln delivered his famous Gettysburg Address. The speech was delivered after soldiers and citizens sacrificed their blood and lives in the hope of unifying our nation. Lincoln reminded the country that "Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent, a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal."

We are committed to the principle that all people are created equal and must be afforded all of the rights and protections under the law. We condemn senseless killings by public servants. We support peaceful demonstrations to remind elected officials that police brutality is unacceptable.

According to the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., "law and order exist for the purpose of establishing justice and when they fail in this purpose, they become dangerously structured dams that block the flow of social progress." If we do not learn from the mistakes of our past, we are condemned to repeat them now and into the future.