



BLACK BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Tepper School of Business at Carnegie Mellon University

The members of the Black Business Association appreciate all of your emails, messages, and phone calls of support during the past couple of weeks. The deaths of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and Ahmaud Arbery are the latest examples of the injustice and systematic racial oppression that African Americans face in the United States of America. Particularly striking and relevant to the Tepper community is the Central Park case where Amy Cooper, not only recognized her white privilege over Christian Cooper but then decided to weaponize that privilege by falsely accusing a black man of threatening her life. We know the disproportionately devastating effects that policing has on people of color and policing should never be used as a tool to harm citizens.

For hundreds of years, African-Americans have been treated as less than equal, unfairly, and asked to work twice as hard for less wages. Research shows 1 in every 1000 Black men die of police violence, making it a leading cause of death for young Black men. At some point, everyone in the country has to say “enough is enough.” The reality we are living in 2020 should not be our normal and a change must be made. At the very top, the Justice Department has investigated the systemic infiltration of white supremacists into police departments across the country and policy-makers everywhere must reconcile the fact that too many of our citizens are regularly under attack. If you consider yourself an ally to the struggle African-Americans face, this is the time to stand up—SILENCE cannot be the answer. As a united country, we are capable of transforming our society into one that values inclusion and peace but it takes everyone to play their role.

On behalf of the entire Black Business Association, our condolences go out to the family, friends, and loved ones of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, and countless other people of color who have lost their lives due to police brutality and blatant abuse of power. We urge those in our community to find ways to get involved safely.

Ways to Support

Advocate:

- Sign the [Justice for George Floyd petition](#)

- Call the Attorney General Keith Ellison @ 651-296-3353 and let him know that charges must be filed against the police officers.

Educate:

- [The 1619 Project](#), “ an ongoing initiative from The New York Times Magazine that began in August 2019, the 400th anniversary of the beginning of American slavery. It aims to reframe the country’s history by placing the consequences of slavery and the contributions of black Americans at the very center of our national narrative.”
- [Unicorn Riot](#), a non-profit organization that is dedicated to exposing root causes of dynamic social and environmental issues.
- [Black Lives Matter](#), global organization in the US, UK, and Canada, “whose mission is to eradicate white supremacy and build local power to intervene in violence inflicted on Black communities by the state and vigilantes.”

Donate:

- [George Floyd Memorial fund](#), official GoFundME to support the Floyd family.
- [Minnesota Freedom Fund](#), nonprofit that pays bail and immigration bonds for individuals arrested while protesting police brutality.
- [Black Lives Matter](#), global organization in the US, UK, and Canada, “whose mission is to eradicate white supremacy and build local power to intervene in violence inflicted on Black communities by the state and vigilantes.”
- [Color of Change](#), an organization that designs campaigns “powerful enough to end practices that unfairly hold Black people back, and champion solutions that move us all forward. Until justice is real.”
- [Reclaim the Block](#), coalition that advocates for and invests in community-led safety initiatives in Minneapolis neighborhoods.
- [Campaign Zero](#), online platform & organization that utilizes research-based policy solutions to end police brutality in America
- [Unicorn Riot](#), a non-profit organization that is dedicated to exposing root causes of dynamic social and environmental issues.
- [The Bail Project](#), an organization dedicated to combating mass incarceration and reshaping the pretrial system in the united states
- [Pittsburgh Bail Fund](#), supporting those incarcerated at Allegheny County Jail by providing bail assistance.

With a heavy heart,

Olasubomi Adesoye

President, Black Business Association

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