

Immigration Law Society Statement of Solidarity

The Immigration Law Society of Rutgers Camden wholeheartedly supports the Black community in their fight against police brutality and systemic racism in the United States.

America prides itself on being a place of freedom to which people can flee from violence, hatred, poverty, and hunger. But the reality is that in this country, we are not all free. We are not all protected. Our country was built by Black people who were forced here and enslaved for centuries. Most non-Black people prefer to push that part of history far from their thoughts, instead finding comfort in white-washed stories of immigrants entering the country at Ellis Island, with the Statue of Liberty proudly standing in the background. But all of us, regardless of our citizenship status or ancestry, must confront those dark chapters of history because, as a result of collective ignorance, our society has continued to perpetuate systemic racism and prioritize white comfort over Black lives.

We, like so many others, call for the defunding and demilitarization of the police as a first step in the fight against injustice. We encourage our non-Black peers to educate themselves on their role in our racist system and what they can do to begin changing themselves and the world around them. At the intersection of crime and immigration is the overwhelming oppression of Black people and other people of color who are commonly indigenous to the Americas. We are not free, and the communities this organization serves are not free, until our Black hermanxs are free.

George Floyd matters. Breonna Taylor matters. Ahmaud Arbery matters. All the Black people that this country has murdered whose names we may never know matter.

Black Lives Matter.

The Immigration Law Society pledges to donate \$50 from our budget to the Philadelphia Community Bail Fund. We encourage other student organizations to match our donation.

We understand that many students are not in a position to contribute to a cause financially. However, there are a number of petitions that critically need support. Please use this [link](#) and sign.