

Dear Rutgers Law Community,

The Rutgers Italian American Law Student Organization (RIALSO) at Rutgers Law – Newark stands in solidarity with the Association of Black Law Students (ABLS) and the Black Lives Matter (BLM) movement. We hear you, we stand by you, and we support you in the fight against systematic racism and white supremacy.

We mourn the lives of George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, David McAtee, and each and every life that has been senselessly taken by police brutality. But we also understand that mourning the victims of racism and denouncing prejudice is not enough. We acknowledge that we must work to actively dismantle those institutions which exist that oppress the Black community. And we acknowledge the role our own community has historically played in building such institutions. We pledge to demand justice and accountability as we work toward progressive social justice reform. As a cultural organization dedicated to acknowledging outstanding achievements in the law, we recognize the power that exists within the legal community to create systematic change. We pledge that, as members of the legal community, equality and empathy will continue to be at the forefront of our professional and personal decisions.

It cannot be overstated how proud we are to be a part of the Rutgers Law community, which has come together to demand justice at a time of civil unrest and unthinkable pain. We are committed to joining ABLS in the fight against racial injustice.

In solidarity,

RIALSO

Rutgers Law School – Newark