

Black Law Students Association  
Rutgers Law School – Camden  
217 North Fifth Street  
Camden, NJ 08102



### Statement Addressing Recent Acts of Racism and Violence

The recent murder of GEORGE FLOYD has caused protests and massive rebellions across the nation. We also acknowledge AHMAUD ARBERY who was chased and gunned down in Georgia for running. Additionally, BREONNA TAYLOR who was shot by the police in her own home. The Black Law Students Association at Rutgers Law in Camden stands by the families and communities affected by the violence and racism that continues to run rampant across the nation.

We live in a world where Black and African-American people are afraid to run, to shop, to go out at night, to be in their own home at the risk of being a victim of police brutality and death. We live in a world where Black people say and exclaim that they cannot breathe and are ignored. All of these events portray a world where Black lives do not matter. Where Black bodies are disposable. And where Black voices are not heard until they are forced to take to the streets.

The latest protests by the Black and African-American communities demanding justice are categorized as thugs looting and rioting while people protesting to open up the country during the COVID-19 pandemic with guns were considered very good people by President Trump. This highlights the racism that has plagued America and is amplified by its leader. Our anger is not violence. The riots are not about looting and destruction. Their purpose is to emphasize that the loss of property is miniscule in comparison to a loss of a life.

To our Black peers at Rutgers Law, we stand with you. We understand the struggles faced by Black individuals on a daily basis not only in America, but at the law school. To our peers who are allies, this is not the time for silence or remaining indifferent. Your outrage needs to be actively heard and seen by your friends and family for true justice to occur. For the upcoming year BLSA plans to focus on meetings that educate the Rutgers Law community on the injustice and criminalization faced by Black people.

As a law school, a change needs to be made to the curriculum. More has to be done than implicit bias training for the majority of students at Rutgers Law to see, realize, and empathize with the issues faced by Black citizens and the minority population at Rutgers Law.

There are several ways the Rutgers Community can get involved to support the protests and families of those affected:

- George Floyd Memorial Fund — <https://www.gofundme.com/f/georgefloyd>
- Minnesota Freedom Fund — <https://minnesotafreedomfund.org/donate>
- I Run With Maud — <https://www.gofundme.com/f/i-run-with-maud>
- Justice For Breonna Taylor — <https://www.change.org/p/andy-beshear-justice-for-breonna-taylor>

We are tired of seeing hashtags of names and demands for justice come and go just to have another name and demand the following week. We grieve the loss of George, Breonna, Ahmaud, and many others. We demand justice. We demand change.

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