

SBA STATEMENT ON STANDING IN SOLIDARITY WITH THE BLACK COMMUNITY

“We’ve got to face the fact that some people say you fight fire best with fire, but we say you put fire out best with water. We say you don’t fight racism with racism. We’re gonna fight racism with solidarity.” -Fred Hampton

The Rutgers Camden Student Bar Association (SBA) honors the legacies of George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and far too many others who were failed by a social framework rife with the devaluation and perpetuation of violence against Black lives.

The SBA stands in solidarity with our Black brothers, sisters, parents, partners, and colleagues in the fight against the injustices they have faced entirely too long. The SBA adamantly and emphatically stands with the Black Law Students Association (BLSA) and supports their mission to improve our school’s programming, cultural curriculum, and response to the needs of its Black students and other students of color. Beyond that, the SBA unapologetically stands in solidarity with the Black community at large and will work to show such support not just through words, but with actions.

This upcoming school year, we will continue to proudly support BLSA by promoting and attending their events and training. With the addition of our Diversity and Inclusion Representative and our commitment to addressing students’ concerns transparently and with urgency, we will continue to learn and grow as allies. We recognize that we have a lot of work to do, but we’re ready for the challenge and implore you to stand with us.

As an executive board, we are committed to examining our own biases. We plan to lead and organize events that challenge not only us, but our entire student body and administration to help us reflect on how our words and actions are affected by such biases. Making Rutgers Law a place where all of our current and prospective students feel welcome and comfortable is the bare minimum. Let’s strive for more. Rutgers Law is capable of great things when we work together.

The SBA encourages everyone to educate themselves on issues facing the Black community, to refrain from holding property damage to a higher regard than Black lives, and to support the protests and families of those affected by donating to the organization listed below. We also encourage all who are able to attend the town hall on Tuesday, June 02, 2020 at 12:00 PM to listen, learn, and be heard.

They can’t breathe. Let’s not make it harder. Black Lives Matter.

Where to donate:

[NAACP Legal Defense Fund](#)

[George Floyd Memorial Fund](#)

[I Run with Maud](#)

[Justice for Breonna Taylor](#)

[Philadelphia Bail Fund](#)

National Bail Fund Resources: [National Bail Fund Network](#) and [Donate to Bail Funds for Protestors](#)

In Solidarity,

2020-2021 SBA Executive Board