



Statement of the American Association for Access, Equity and Diversity on the Tragic Death of George Floyd and its Aftermath

Organization of equal opportunity and diversity professionals voices its support for the worldwide movement that has arisen as a result of more incidents of police brutality

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For Immediate Release

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Washington, DC, June 15, 2020 - In the wake of the tragic death of George Floyd and other African Americans at the hands of police (including most recently Rayshard Brooks), the American Association for Access, Equity and Diversity (AAAED) voices its support for the worldwide movement that has arisen as a direct result of police brutality claiming Black lives. From dining rooms to boardrooms, every institution and organization in this country must pivot, rethink and re-imagine its position on race, racism and how history will judge its actions (or inaction).

While we are encouraged that this event has ignited real conversations around police reform and institutional racism, it is our hope that many will engage in this opportunity to reset their structures with sincerity and thought and move from conversations to action. The only effort that can end racism is the intentional dismantling of it and that can only be done with a united front of individuals, institutions, and organizations committed to long-term sustainable change. Dr. King once said: "There is no easy way to create a world where men and women can live together... But if such a world is created in our lifetime, it will be done by rejecting the racism, materialism, and violence that has characterized Western civilization and especially by working toward a world of brotherhood, cooperation, and peace."

AAAED also promises to pivot and vows, through its membership and its educational, advocacy and professional development opportunities, that we will be a constant source of support and resources to your institutions' and organizations' fight to create sustainable change. Whether it's in the area of developing diversity, outreach and recruitment strategies, training programs or representation in the halls of government, we stand committed to be a part of the solution. As

the oldest operating association of professionals in the equal opportunity and affirmative action professions we are poised to stand for and with you.

Founded in 1974 as the American Association for Affirmative Action (AAAA), AAAED is a national not-for-profit association of professionals working in the areas of equal opportunity, compliance and diversity. The longest-serving organization of individuals in the equal opportunity and diversity professions, AAAED has 46 years of leadership providing quality professional training to practitioners and promoting understanding and advocacy of affirmative action and other equal opportunity laws.

For more information about AAAED, go to www.aaed.org. Information about the AAAED 46th National Conference - Virtual, may be found at <https://www.aaed.org/aaed/Conference.asp>

