



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **OFFICIAL PRESS STATEMENT**

### **JUSTICE OPENED ITS EYES INSTEAD OF BEING BLIND IN THE DEREK CHAUVIN TRIAL**

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**GRAND RAPIDS/DETROIT, MICHIGAN** - The time is come and is at hand that we begin a “New American Experiment”- to execute economic rights, to expand the sharing of legislative and governmental power, and to make the decision to make the justice system not only accountable but to achieve a partnership and community participation within every institution, corporation, governmental agency on every level in every region for the earnest well-being of the whole nation.

We are always in need of transformation, of a change of heart. America can be bigger than the moment we just experienced, we are destined for greater. Nevertheless, it is evident that we are not always true, wise, loving or just, even with all of our remarkable potentials. We must say “NO” to undeniable aspects in our culture, to certain inclinations and ways of acting that are opposed to a life of Justice.

The pursuit of Equity, Equality and Justice takes us into an arena that we may not be comfortable in, however it allows us to test the policies of government by the principles and spirit in which Thomas Jefferson penned these words in the U.S. Constitution:

*“We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. – That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, - That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such a form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness.”*

These elementary duties can be summarized this way. Basic justice mandates the instituting of minimum levels of participation in the life of the human community for all persons. These

configurations of marginalization are designed by free human beings. So, the question is, will we continue to create and follow policies written and unwritten that disenfranchise and marginalized people of color that comprise this melting pot of unique diversity woven into one fabric; or will we yet unravel the tapestry of our nation. Will we embrace these words of our U.S. Constitution that endure to this day that “all men are created equal,” or will we allow the few to destroy the many.

Now is another “moment” that the soul of this experiment known as “democracy” in these United States will make a choice relative to its future path. The choice of a “new beginning” is the quest for community power and not selective power. Time and time again we have continued to understand that public policy making in America’s cities, towns, counties, states and our nation are either directly or indirectly dictated by an elite few with fluctuating levels of political self-rule and value consensus.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. said, "The Time Is Always Right To Do What Is Right." The jurists in this case, heard the voice of George Perry Floyd and afforded Americans of all colors, this moment in allowing us to “BREATHE,” if but for one moment.

*“If we are to go forward, we must go back and rediscover these precious values – that all reality hinges on moral foundations and that all reality has spiritual control.”*

**Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**

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