LETTER OF SOLIDARITY

In response to the disturbing events of the past week, the Executive Board of the University of San Diego Sports & Entertainment Law Society stands in solidarity with the Black community in an unapologetic rebuke of the violence and racism that has continuously targeted Black Americans both here in San Diego and across the country.

The death of George Floyd is not unprecedented; unfortunately, it is the latest notable proof of the inherently systemic violence and oppression the Black community has faced since Black men and women were first brought to American shores as slaves in 1619. Amongst prominent names like Emmett Till, Eric Garner, Tamir Rice, Sandra Bland, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, and George Floyd lie countless other victims of perpetuated racism whose deaths fell through the innumerable cracks of our broken legal system.

As students preparing for careers as lawyers, attorneys, agents, and advocates alike, we must take an unwavering stand against racial injustice, systemic violence, and police brutality. It is our heightened responsibility as the next generation of legal advocates to expose, examine, and dismantle the marginalization that has plagued the American legal system with bias and injustice. We vow to be an active hand in repairing a legal system in desperate need of integrity and ethical reform.

As students interested in sports and entertainment law, we must also recognize the blatant disparities within the sports and entertainment industries. It is our duty to ensure that Black voices do not fall upon deaf ears, and that Black actors, musicians, artists, and sports persons are given a safe and honest opportunity to share their experiences, speak their truths, and call out inequality without fear of rebuke.

We join USD La Raza, the USD Criminal Law Society, USD Women’s Law Caucus, USD Middle Eastern Law Students Association, and several other USD student organizations in our solidarity and invite all voices in the USD community to stand with us against racism and violence perpetrated against the Black community.

Sports and Entertainment Law Society Executive Boards, 2019-2020 and 2020-2021