In response to continued acts of violence against Black persons in cities across the United States, the Executive Board of the USD La Raza Law Students Association stands in solidarity with our Black peers and colleagues within the University of San Diego Law, Graduate, and Undergraduate communities, as well as those Black persons across the country who remain disproportionate targets of police violence and institutional racism.

It is crucial for us as Latinx law students to acknowledge that our criminal legal system is too often anything but just. As protests and demonstrations ensue across our country, we unapologetically condemn the abuse of Black bodies, silencing of Black voices, and the devaluation of Black lives by institutional and systemic forces of oppression.

Though non-Black Latinx persons often fight for Black dignity because we see it inexplicably tied to our own struggles in this country, this notion does not go far enough in supporting Black persons in this sociopolitical moment. In order to be true advocates of racial progress for Black persons, we must acknowledge our relative privilege, educate ourselves and our communities on Anti-Blackness, re-examine our own biases, and develop strategic allyship that stresses the inherent value of Black lives and Black social movements. We must continue to create space for our Afro-Latinx hermanx who are often victims of violence and are marginalized within our culture and mainstream institutions. We cannot afford to stay quiet as Black persons continue to disproportionately suffer at the hands of law enforcement officers and within our criminal legal system.

We call on other student organizations at USD Law to be vocal about the disproportionate suffering, brutality, and injustice that Black persons are too frequently subjected to in our communities. We call for members of our Law and Greater University communities to educate themselves on racial injustice and to use their platforms and privilege to stand in solidarity with the members of Black communities across our country. We must organize, mobilize, and create spaces for Black voices as we fight for racial progress and against police violence in the weeks and months to come.

La Raza Executive Board, 2020-2021