

OFFICIAL STATEMENT ON THE TRIAL OF DEREK CHAUVIN

Our hearts and minds are with George Floyd's family and community today as they continue to work towards closure from his murder. George Floyd should still be alive. As many have already said: the verdict released on Tuesday represents accountability, not justice.

The Auraria Campus Police Department Community Advisory Board (ACPD CAB) is grateful for the thoughtful consideration of the jurors in the murder trial which has recently concluded in Minneapolis. Within the confines of our current criminal-legal system, we believe that this was the correct outcome. However, this trial and its juxtaposition to the simultaneous murder of two innocent and unarmed Black people is stark. Our work must continue as we assist our communities in adapting and progressing towards a new normal of anti-oppression and anti-racism. We are empowered by the decision made in this trial as we continue to envision a future free of the taint of systemic racism and senseless brutality enacted against the Black community.

We know that the road to that dream is not nearly concluded and our journey remains long and arduous; this is but one step in the right direction for our nation and our communities to hold accountable those who enact violence with impunity, including law enforcement.

We, as a committee, reaffirm our commitment to anti-violence and to intentionally uplifting the voices of the BIPOC and other historically marginalized communities. We are grateful to be working in a campus community which values critical discourse and is working to make our campus a safer, more equitable environment for everyone and particularly our BIPOC communities.

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Disclaimer: The views expressed above are those of the ACPD CAB – the independent advisory committee tasked with advising the ACPD – and do not necessarily represent the views of the ACPD, AHEC, MSU Denver, CU Denver, or CCD.