

## PRESS RELEASE

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## STATEMENT FROM THE SPANISH AMERICAN LEAGUE AGAINST DISCRIMINATION ON RACE RELATIONS AND FREEDOM OF ASSEMBLY

**MIAMI, FL, June 11, 2020** – The recent murder of George Floyd by City of Minneapolis police officers and the subsequent public demonstrations throughout our country, as a result, is another constant reminder that racial justice continues to be a pivotal issue in our country.

Everyone in The United States of America is entitled to the enjoyment of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness and no one should be subject to the negation of those rights on the basis of their race, ethnic origin, religion, or gender.

Equally, the right to peacefully protest and to petition the government for redress of grievances is one of the fundamental freedoms of all Americans. However, violent protests (including rioting, arson, and looting of local businesses) are unequivocally condemned and all individuals engaging in these unlawful and egregious acts must be held accountable. Conversely, the categorizing of peaceful protesters as a threat to authority is the playbook of totalitarian and authoritarian regimes and such characterization has no place in American society.

As an organization committed to diversity, equality, and inclusion the Spanish American League Against Discrimination has, and will continue to, support the good men and women of law enforcement as well as those demanding immediate justice and change for the betterment of our community. To this end, the Spanish American League Against Discrimination supports realistic and meaningful law enforcement reform to improve relations between those who risk their lives to protect us and the people they serve.

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