

A Resolution Calling for Solidarity with the Black Community and Condemning Police Brutality and Anti-Blackness

WHEREAS, the murders of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, David McAttee, Tony McDade, Ahmaud Arbery, Yassin Mohammed, Finan H Berhe, Sean Reed, Steven Demarco Taylor, Ariane McCree, Terrance Franklin, Miles Hall, Darius Tarver, William Green, Samuel David Mallard, Kwame Jones, De’von Bailey, Atatiana Jefferson, Christopher Whitfield, Anthony Hill, Eric Logan, Jamarion Robinson, Kayla Moore, Gregory Hill Jr., JaQuavion Slaton, Ryan Twyman, Brandon Webber, Jimmy Atchinson, Willie McCoy, Emantic Fitzgerald Bradford Jr., D’etrick Griffin, Jemel Roberson, DeAndre Ballard, Botham Shem Jean, Robert Lawrence White, Anthony Lamar Smith, Sandra Bland, Ramarley Graham, Manuel Loggins Jr, Trayvon Martin, Wendell Allen, Kendrec McDade, Pamela Turner, Larry Jackson Jr, Johnathan Ferrell, Jordan Baker, Victor White III, Dontre Hamilton, Eric Garner, John Crawford III, Michael Brown, Ezell Ford, Dante Parker, Kajieme Powell, Laquan McDonald, Akai Gurley, Tamir Rice, Romain Brisbon, Korryn Gaines, Jerame Reid, Charly Keunang, Tony Robinson, Walter Scott, Freddie Gray, Brendon Glenn, Samuel DuBose, Christian Taylor, Jamar Clark, Mario Woods, Quintonia LeGrier, Gregory Gunn, Akiel Denkins, Alton Sterling, Philando Castile, Terrence Sterling Crutcher, Natasha Terence, Keith Lamont Scott, Alfred Olango, Jordan Edwards, Stephon Clark, Danny Ray Thomas, DeJuan Guillory, Patrick Harmon, Johnathan Hart, Maurice Granton, Julius Johnson, Jamee Johnson, Nia Wilson, Oscar Grant and Michael Dean represent just a few of the countless systemic murders of Black people at the hands of the police and white supremacists; and

WHEREAS, from 2013 to 2019, the LAPD killed 124 people, with Black people killed at 4.2 times the rate of white people;¹ and

WHEREAS, the Los Angeles community has gathered to exercise their right to protest these injustices and has been met with violence from the LAPD such as rubber bullets, tear gas, mace, and flashbangs,² signifying a lack of de-escalation and a failure to address a deep history of brutality;³ and

WHEREAS, the National Guard has been deployed to police the Westwood community,⁴ creating fear among student residents that prevents them from accessing already scarce basic needs amidst a global pandemic that disproportionately affects the Black community;⁵ and

¹ <https://mappingpoliceviolence.org/cities>

² <https://laist.com/2020/05/30/los-angeles-george-floyd-protests-day-four.php>

³ nlg.org/nlg-condemns-violent-police-response-to-black-lives-matter-protests-nationwide/

⁴ <https://dailybruin.com/2020/06/01/usac-leadership-requests-immediate-removal-of-national-guard-from-ucla-area>

⁵ <https://www.npr.org/2020/04/08/829575332/how-is-the-coronavirus-affecting-black-americans>

WHEREAS, UCPD has shown itself to be complicit in this system through its ongoing collaboration with the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) and its failure to address the concerns of Black students;

WHEREAS, UCPD has used excessive force in the past and has shown no tangible steps towards improvement;⁶ and

WHEREAS Following a letter of demands⁷ brought to the administration by Student Body President Jael Kerandi, and signed by over 2,000 students and community members in response to the horrific murder of George Floyd by Minneapolis PD Officer Derek Chauvin, the University of Minnesota announced on May 27th that it will be cutting its ties to Minneapolis PD,⁸ and

WHEREAS, the parking lot of the UCLA Jackie Robinson Stadium, a UCLA affiliated facility, was used by LAPD to detain and process peaceful protestors, including student protestors;⁹ and

WHEREAS, instances of racism and anti-Blackness in blatant and discreet forms continue to exist among the UCLA student body, faculty, and administration;¹⁰ and

WHEREAS, UCLA has stated that they will “search for solutions” in many ways, including “working with student government”¹¹ and

WHEREAS, a failure to practice meaningful and non-performative allyship to the Black community now and forever is detrimental to the proliferation of peace and prosperity;

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the USAC stands firmly in solidarity with the Black community and unequivocally supports the efforts of Black Lives Matter;

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, that the USAC demands that UCLA administration prevent the future use of UCLA facilities to repress student voices and police Black bodies by

⁶ <https://dailybruin.com/2013/11/25/la-judge-files-excessive-force-complaint-against-ucpd>, <https://dailybruin.com/2007/01/17/student-files-lawsuit-over-tas>, <https://dailybruin.com/2006/11/16/editorial-ucpds-use-of-force-d>, <https://dailybruin.com/2000/05/24/university-investigates-compla>, <https://dailybruin.com/2009/12/06/iucpd-abuses-protest-must-be-recognizedi>,

⁷ https://docs.google.com/document/d/16qq6ZoClvu5SvEmzQig_rlm68qslGxdT2tfwpc73kpg/edit

⁸ <https://www.washingtonpost.com/education/2020/05/28/university-minnesota-limits-ties-minneapolis-police-department-after-death-george-floyd/>

⁹ https://m.box.com/shared_item/https:%2F%2Fucla.box.com%2Fs%2F8q008x846dk501eifs45bq7xxuljxt3v

¹⁰ <https://scholarship.org/content/qt03j4d80q/qt03j4d80q.pdf>

¹¹ <https://newsroom.ucla.edu/releases/ucla-leaders-express-solidarity-with-the-protests-against-systemic-racial-injustice>

holding organizations that use the space accountable for their actions by cutting ties with associated entities and by maintaining transparency with the student body;

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, that the USAC demands¹² from Governor Gavin Newsom, Mayor Eric Garcetti, and the UCLA administration to demilitarize Westwood through the immediate withdrawal of National Guard officers from our community and calls for the immediate release of peaceful protestors arrested in Westwood;

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, that the USAC joins the UC Student Association and UCLA Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Student Advisory Board¹³ in calling for full data transparency in UCPD stops, uses of force, and arrests under state law SB 1421 and revision in the racialized methods of reporting Clery Timely Warning notifications to the campus community;

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, that the USAC demands that UCLA, similarly to the University of Minnesota, cease contracting with the Los Angeles Police Department for large events, such as football games, concerts, and ceremonies and that UCLA will direct the UCLA Police Department to no longer use the Los Angeles Police department when specialized services are needed for University events;

FINALLY, LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the USAC will hold UCLA administrators and UCPD accountable to translate their statements of support into meaningful action by making an active effort to listen to, be transparent with, and be held accountable to work with and support Black students and Black student organizations, specifically by acting on the most recent asks of the Afrikan Student Union¹⁴.

¹² bit.ly/NationalGuardOut-Letter

¹³ <https://docs.google.com/document/d/16u5ZXXis1xS2Qqiarb55c-4Wxf6A3ZBYoxhmvpPd-H4/edit>

¹⁴ <https://www.instagram.com/p/CA9b5AtliwE/>