

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 3, 2020

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## THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION CONDEMNS RACISM AND VIOLENCE AGAINST COMMUNITIES OF COLOR AND IS COMMITTED TO WORKING TOWARD POSITIVE CHANGE

Community and inclusion are among the most revered <u>core values</u> at the San Diego County Bar Association. We acknowledge that racism and xenophobia continue to perpetuate the vastly disparate, unjust treatment and disrespect of people of color in our country. We are reeling from the recent acts of shocking brutality against the Black community, including the killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd. These events represent only a fraction of the inequities and acts of violence leveled against people of color. On behalf of our nearly 10,000 members, we condemn these acts and stand against racism and violence.

These tragic events underscore the dire need for structural and systemic change throughout American society. It is not enough to simply denounce racism; we must all be anti-racist. We cannot be silent. The mistreatment of anyone based on race should not be tolerated in any circumstance. It has no place in our justice system. At the San Diego County Bar Association, we are actively working toward solutions to effectuate positive change in our profession and the justice system. We call on all members of the legal community to be leaders by making a personal commitment to equitable treatment and equal justice for all.

Many in our community are hurting, and we stand united with you. We must listen and learn from people of color. As a society, we must be better, and do better.

The <u>San Diego County Bar Association</u>, established in 1899, is the region's largest law-related organization, dedicated to serving the needs of all attorneys and the legal community in San Diego County.

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