



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **The Hispanic Bar Association of the District of Columbia Condemns Systemic Racism Against the Black Community**

**(Washington, DC – June 5, 2020)** – HBA-DC stands in solidarity with the Black community, who are HBA-DC members, our family, our colleagues, our neighbors, and our friends. We condemn all racial and social injustices. The death of George Floyd – while he pleaded with police for the ability to breathe – reflects the systemic and pervasive inequalities embedded in this nation from the highest levels of government to our local communities.

Racism is deeply entrenched in this nation’s history and unacceptably persists today. Black men, women, and children continue to be unjustly murdered, attacked, and targeted. The Black Lives Matter movement and the protests in recent days underscore the inaction as well as the long and continued disregard for racial and social injustices in the Black community, including among Afro-Latinos.

As lawmakers, attorneys, and students, it is our duty to address these injustices, including through legislation, advocacy, pro bono representation, and social programs. Silence and inaction is unacceptable. HBA-DC is committed to combating any kind of discrimination or oppression whether by race, ethnicity, age, gender, sexual orientation, religion, or disability. As attorneys who have sworn an oath to uphold the Constitution of the United States, HBA-DC also condemns any and all illegal abuses against those who peacefully petition their government for change. Our civic leaders must pave a path for empathy and constructive dialogue and reject dangerous escalations and divisive rhetoric.

HBA-DC stands by George Floyd and his family as well as other victims of racial violence. We must join together and stand by the Black community and all who support equality and the fair rule of law.

### **About the HBA-DC**

The Hispanic Bar Association of the District of Columbia is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, voluntary legal association representing the interests of Hispanic attorneys, judges, law professors, law students, and legal professionals within the greater Washington, D.C. area. Its mission is promoting the professional development of Hispanic lawyers and law students; promoting equal justice and opportunities for all Hispanics; and promoting the appointment of Hispanics to leadership positions in Federal, state, and local governments, in the judiciary, and in other leadership positions. For more information visit <http://www.hbadc.org>.