

**RESOLUTION
ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Criminal Justice Coordinating
Council
INITIATED BY



Randy Terronez
DRAFTED BY

Public Safety & Justice Committee
SUBMITTED BY

June 4, 2020
DATE DRAFTED

**Condemning George Floyd Death, Supporting Peaceful Demonstrations, and
Calling for Action on Racial Reconciliation**

1 **WHEREAS**, on May 25, 2020, George Floyd died at the hands of four members of the Minneapolis Police
2 Department, violating his civil rights and violating his humanity, that was videotaped by concerned
3 bystanders showing the tragic final minutes of George Floyd’s life; and,
4

5 **WHEREAS**, George Floyd’s death came shortly after two other highly publicized deaths of Breonna
6 Taylor and Ahmaud Arbery, which leave our communities overwhelmed with grief, heartsick over the
7 inhumanity, and represent a blatant disregard for the dignity and sanctity of human life; and,
8

9 **WHEREAS**, these incidents serve as another example of the ever-present inequality in our country that is
10 also revealed in the disproportionate impact the COVID-19 epidemic has had on people of color, and the
11 resulting unemployment-economic hardship on people of color; and,
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13 **WHEREAS**, the nation needs a change in race-relations, from a culture that teaches a white woman
14 walking her dog in Central Park that a racially-motivated call to law enforcement is a weapon she can use
15 to enforce her own preferred social code, to a culture that values and respects the diverse communities in
16 our society; and,
17

18 **WHEREAS**, we support the peaceful demonstrations and protests held in Rock County (and around the
19 country and the world), and acknowledge the justifiable anger and frustration, that raise awareness of the
20 Floyd killing and related racial disparity; and,
21

22 **WHEREAS**, the actions of these four officers do not represent the thousands of men and women that serve
23 and protect their respective communities with the highest level of professionalism, but their actions do
24 impact the relationships between those communities and their police departments.
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26 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Rock County Board of Supervisors, duly
27 assembled this 25th day of June, 2020, does hereby condemn the killing of George Floyd at
28 the hands of four Minneapolis Police Department officers.
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30 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the County acknowledges the existence of systemic racism both
31 nationally and within Rock County, and that the County will hold accountable anyone within the County
32 systems practicing bias and perpetuating systemic racism.
33

34 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Rock County calls for national law enforcement standards
35 regarding inappropriate use of force, procedural justice, and implicit bias training, and supports ongoing
36 dialogue regarding improvements to law enforcement operations that demonstrate the value of human
37 life and recognize the role of trauma.
38

39 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the County with the Rock County Diversity Action Team,
40 NAACP Beloit Branch, YWCA Rock County and other interested community organizations actively
41 participate and promote county-wide dialogue regarding racism and the history of race in the nation in
42 order to reconcile over 400 years of systemic oppression.
43

44 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the County Clerk be requested to send copies of this resolution to
45 the County’s state and federal legislative delegation, Governor Evers, and the Wisconsin Counties
46 Association.
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48 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Rock County Board of Supervisors will work to establish a
49 plan to address systemic/structural racism in Rock County that will include adopting set metrics to
50 measure racial disparities in our county and pledge to reduce those disparities.

Respectfully submitted,

PUBLIC SAFETY & JUSTICE COMMITTEE

/s/Mary Beaver
Mary Beaver, Chair

/s/Brian Knudson
Brian Knudson, Vice Chair

/s/Jacob Taylor
Jacob Taylor

/s/Ron Bomkamp
Ron Bomkamp

/s/Danette Rynes
Danette Rynes