



# NATIONAL DISTRICT ATTORNEYS ASSOCIATION

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

April 20, 2021

## **NDAA Statement on Verdict in Derek Chauvin Trial**

ARLINGTON, VA – Today’s verdict finding Derek Chauvin guilty on the counts of second degree murder, third degree murder and second degree manslaughter delivered some justice for the family of George Floyd, the people of Minneapolis and the country. The trial reflects careful deliberations by a jury of Mr. Chauvin’s peers and our country’s foundational legal process of reviewing the evidence, hearing arguments from the prosecution and defense as well as testimony from multiple witnesses. However, work remains to be done.

As NDAA indicated in its statement on May 31, 2020 after Mr. Floyd was killed, there is no known police technique or training that any of our members, with thousands of years of law enforcement experience, are aware of that justified Mr. Chauvin’s actions in pinning down Mr. Floyd and ignoring the distress calls from him indicating that he could not breathe. Additionally, NDAA’s policy recommendations on improving the criminal justice system outlined steps that can be taken to improve trust between law enforcement and the communities they serve, enhance transparency and accountability by law enforcement, reduce inequality in the system, improve data collection and strengthen training and guidelines for use of force.

We support the rights of individuals to peacefully protest. We also urge calm in communities around the country in response to today’s verdict. Ultimately, we hope that Mr. Floyd’s legacy is a national commitment to improve law enforcement training, our attitudes on race, our selection and retention of police officers, transparency and accountability for law enforcement and our commitment to the reality, not merely the promise, of equal justice for all.

*Formed in 1950, NDAA is the oldest and largest national organization representing state and local prosecutors in the country. With more than 5,000 members representing over two thirds of the state and local prosecutors’ offices, NDAA is recognized as the leading source of national expertise on the prosecution function and is a valuable resource for the media, academia, government, and community leaders. NDAA’s mission is to provide state and local prosecutors with the knowledge, skills, and support they need to ensure that justice is done and that public safety rights are protected.*

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