

*\*\*The below message was addressed to the Vanderbilt Divinity School community and includes resources compiled by the Student Government.*

*To the Vanderbilt Divinity School community,*

*We wish we could just say it has been one hell of a weekend, but that is not true. It has been a hell of a month, year, and lifetime. Our Black siblings have been subjected to the hatred in this country for well over 400 years and that is not acceptable. The hatred demonstrated by police officers against Black bodies requires a response that is coordinated and determined. We know many members of the Vanderbilt community are looking for ways to support racial justice and we share the resources below as ways to make our voices heard.*

*We have kneeled quietly and protested loudly, still to no avail. The protest this weekend that many of us participated in was just more proof that the work we are doing is timely and necessary. Like Dean Townes said “we will continue to teach, preach, and practice this inside the classroom and in the public spaces we inhabit. It is the gospel. It is our mandate.” We know it is hard and uncomfortable but know that we continue to stand with you in this fight.*

*If you are looking for ways to get involved, please refer to the list below, shared by the Vanderbilt Student Government:*

- *Sign a petition.*
  - *Text FLOYD to 55156 to demand that all officers involved in Floyd’s death are charged with his murder.*
  - *Text ENOUGH to 55156 to demand justice for Breonna Taylor.*
  - *Text JUSTICE to 55156 and 668366 to demand justice for Ahmaud Arbery.*
  - *Sign this [petition](#) to demand a ban on law enforcement officials who have committed racially motivated acts of violence in the past to never hold a job in law enforcement again.*
  - *More petitions to sign can be found [here](#).*
- *Donate if you can.*
  - *[GoFundMe](#) for George Floyd’s Family*
  - *[Minnesota Freedom Fund](#)*
  - *[North Star Health Collective](#)*
  - *[Black Lives Matter Movement](#)*
  - *[Reclaim the Block](#)*

- *Information on how to donate internationally and other organizations you can help can be found [here](#).*
- *Make a Phone Call*
  - *Minneapolis Mayor Jacob Frey: 612-673-2100*
  - *Minneapolis District Attorney Mike Freeman: 612-348-5550*
  - *Minnesota Attorney General Keith Ellison: 651-296-3353*
  - *Governor Tim Walz: 651-201-3400*
  - *Minneapolis Police Internal Affairs: (612) 673-3074*
- *Send an Email*
  - [police@minneapolismn.gov](mailto:police@minneapolismn.gov)
  - [minneapolis311@minneapolismn.gov](mailto:minneapolis311@minneapolismn.gov)
  - [policereview@minneapolismn.gov](mailto:policereview@minneapolismn.gov)
- *More opportunities to call or email with attached scripts can be found [here](#).*
- *Educate Yourself*
  - *Resources to educate yourself on how to be a better ally and learn about the history of what is happening can be found [here](#).*
- *Protest*
  - *If you choose to protest, make sure you know your rights and how to safely be a part of that change. That information can be found [here](#).*

*If you need assistance during this time, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. There are a multitude of resources available to you during this time and always.*

*We are activists and scholars in training who contribute towards justice, equality, and equity. We will keep fighting until we can all breathe.*