



San Diego and Imperial Counties Labor Council

STATEMENT BY SAN DIEGO & IMPERIAL COUNTIES LABOR COUNCIL ON THE MURDER OF GEORGE FLOYD

We condemn the brutal murder of George Floyd and stand with the protesters demanding the police officers responsible be brought to justice. We mourn with his family, and with our community in trauma.

His death is a tragedy that is the direct result of a history that began with slavery, continued with the use of Black Codes to imprison freed slaves for forced labor, persisted through Jim Crow and exists today in a system of discriminatory policing and mass incarceration of people of color.

Racism is not a set of isolated incidents or bad actors. It is ingrained in the fabric of our laws, our culture and our public policy. It is also a cornerstone of our economy. The brutal control and suppression of black lives serves the ends of a wealthy and powerful few, and robs generations of black men, women and children of their basic humanity.

Eradicating racism and white supremacy will not simply require individual change, but rebuilding our systems and institutions root and branch. As a labor movement, we are determined to raise up the voices of workers to take on these injustices and to accelerate change that has been far too slow for too long.

We must end the legacy that racism has wrought, replace oppressive laws and broken institutions. Unequal access to housing, healthcare, education, banking, and employment must be confronted. And we must end the economic inequality that leaves so many in despair.

Our criminal justice system must fundamentally change.

We must commit to addressing inequity within our labor movement and do the daily and enduring work of eradicating racist systems in every industry - including law enforcement.

We know the power we, as workers have to create change - to amplify the voices of the most vulnerable and use our collective strength to defend the fundamental humanity of every person.

Only then can we begin to heal, as a movement, a community and a nation.

In Solidarity,

Doug Moore
President
San Diego & Imperial Counties Labor Council

Keith Maddox
Executive Secretary-Treasurer
San Diego & Imperial Counties Labor Council