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ASIAN PACIFIC POLICY & PLANNING COUNCIL

Dear A3PCON community,

We come to you determined and committed to putting an end to the continued violence against Black and Brown communities at the hands of law enforcement.

Today, the jury reached a verdict in the [Derek Chauvin case](#). Chauvin is charged with second- and third-degree murder and second-degree manslaughter for the murder of George Floyd when kneeled on his neck and back for 9 minutes and 29 seconds, while Floyd was handcuffed.

The verdict: **Guilty**. While this verdict is, in our eyes, a move towards justice, true justice would be that George Floyd was still alive today.

A few miles from the site that George Floyd was murdered, 20 year old Daunte Wright was murdered on April 11, 2021 by a veteran Brooklyn Center police officer at a routine traffic stop - the officer has since resigned. Shortly after news broke, CBS news shared [video footage](#) of a different incident in December where police officers in Virginia held an Army officer at gunpoint, handcuffed him and doused him with pepper spray — all during an illegal traffic stop.

The casualness of this violence - mistaking a gun for a taser, pepper spraying a US lieutenant still in uniform - and the victims of said violence being two young Black men, is not lost on us. The institutional racism that makes fatal interactions between police and Black communities commonplace is inherently linked to the historical racism that makes this new wave of hate and violence against AAPI communities commonplace. Our fight to #StopAAPIHate is a rallying statement - one that is committed to restorative justice for all, dismantling systems of inequalities under white supremacy and preventing violence against AAPI's and all peoples. Our fight is one that demands life and justice in this moment and we are committed to seeing it through. Black Lives Matter.

In life, community and fight,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Manjusha P. Kulkarni'.

Manju Kulkarni
Executive Director

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rachelle Arizmendi'.

Rachelle Arizmendi
Chair, Board of Directors

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The Asian Pacific Policy and Planning Council (A3PCON) is a coalition of community-based organizations that advocates for the rights and needs of the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community in the greater Los Angeles area with particular focus on low income, immigrant, refugee and other disadvantaged sectors of the population. We set up this mailing list to keep you updated on API related issues. This includes community announcements, key news items, resources, and training. We will send you no more than 5 messages a month.

Our mailing address is:

Asian Pacific Policy & Planning Council
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