

SCCDP Statement on Racial Justice

The Santa Clara County Democratic Party joins those who are mourning the deaths of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, and Tony McDade. We share in the anger and frustration that is propelling so many people into the streets to demonstrate and demand justice for Black lives being taken by those who are supposed to protect and serve. These injustices cannot continue.

The SCCDP stands in solidarity with the Black community, and we reaffirm our commitment to ending the institutional and systemic racism that is suffocating our communities. We call on every Democrat in Santa Clara County to become an ally to the cause of equal justice in the United States.

The SCCDP also stands with the protestors demonstrating around the country. The right to protest is one of the most fundamental liberties in a just and democratic society, and our cities have an obligation to ensure the safety of those who are exercising this sacred right. Yet we are again witnessing the brutal and repressive tactics of authoritarianism being used against peaceful marchers, now with the cruel blessing of the President of the United States. We condemn this violence against peaceful demonstrators, we call for an end to the militarization of the police, and we reject curfews that violate the rights of marchers to engage in peaceful protest.

We also express our profound disappointment in the San Jose Police Department, which has gained national attention both for their violent tactics and the unprofessional behavior of officers like Jared Yuen. This is unacceptable, and we demand that the City of San Jose investigate, hold the SJPD accountable, and implement appropriate reforms to prevent such abuses in the future. We also encourage the City of San Jose to follow the example of Los Angeles, and allocate more funds toward services for vulnerable, overpoliced communities.

President Obama reminds us, however, that protesting alone is not enough. We also have to engage in the political process. We have to end the toxic Presidency of Donald Trump that is destroying our nation, but, just as important, we have to elect Democrats and progressives at the state and local level who are going to bring about the change our community so desperately needs.

Today, we march for Black lives, and on November 3rd, we will vote for Black lives because justice cannot wait.

In Solidarity,

The Santa Clara County Democratic Party

Adopted by the Santa Clara County Democratic Central Committee on June 4, 2020