

# DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF LANE COUNTY

## Executive Committee

6/4/2020

### RESOLUTION 2020.2

A resolution of the Democratic Party of Lane County

*Relating to Black Lives Matter*

**WHEREAS,** George Floyd was killed on May 25, 2020, by Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin, who knelt on Floyd's neck for more than eight minutes, while he was handcuffed and lying face down on the road; and

**WHEREAS,** Officers Thomas Lane and J. Alexander Kueng also helped restrain Floyd, who is Black, while officer Tou Thao stood nearby and looked on; and

**WHEREAS,** the killing was recorded by bystanders and those recordings show Floyd pleading that he couldn't breathe; and

**WHEREAS,** Floyd's death comes on the heels of the deaths earlier in the year of Breonna Taylor, a 26-year-old Black woman in Louisville, Kentucky, who was shot multiple times during a no-knock police raid on the wrong house, and Ahmaud Arbery, a Black man in Georgia who was chased, shot and killed while jogging by a retired police officer claiming to perform a citizen's arrest; and

**WHEREAS,** a National Academy of Sciences report found in 2019 that African-American men and boys are two and a half times more likely to die in an encounter with the police than their white peers; and

**WHEREAS,** the senseless killing of George Floyd has sparked widespread outrage and calls for justice nationwide.

**THEREFORE,** the Democratic Party of Lane County resolves:

**SECTION 1:** That we believe Black Lives Matter.

**SECTION 2:** To renew our support for common-sense reforms to end police violence in America, such as those advocated by Campaign Zero ([www.joincampaignzero.org](http://www.joincampaignzero.org)), which include:

- Limiting police interventions by ending broken windows policing and ending for-profit policing;
- Improving community interactions with police by limiting use of force, ensuring community representation, restructuring police training to emphasize de-escalation, and demilitarizing police by prohibiting military equipment; and
- Ensuring police accountability by deploying body cameras and strengthening the right to film police, requiring independent investigations and prosecutions of police officers, establishing empowered community oversight structures, and removing provisions within police union contracts that impose barriers to accountability.

**SECTION 3:** To support the three recommendations from the Oregon Legislature People of Color Caucus published on June 2, which include:

- Prohibiting an arbitrator from lessening disciplinary action against a law enforcement officer if the arbitrator and the law enforcement agency determine that the officer has committed misconduct;
- Authorizing and requiring the Attorney General to investigate and prosecute, if the evidence dictates, any death or serious physical injury resulting from the use of force by a law enforcement officer; and
- Convening a bipartisan work group to recommend changes to the state's laws regarding use of physical force or deadly physical force in making an arrest or in preventing an escape.

**SECTION 4:** To hereby commit to our community that our organization does not and will not tolerate, nor accept in any way, the violent or disrespectful treatment of people of color that degrades dignity or disregards human life.

**SECTION 5:** To call upon the members of our organization to commit to introspective evaluation of ourselves as community leaders regarding this event and our individual and collective roles in dismantling the institutions of white supremacy in Lane County, in Oregon and in the United States.