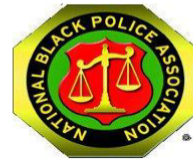


MINNESOTA CHAPTER



NATIONAL BLACK POLICE ASSOCIATION

April 20, 2021

Community,

Minnesota has seen significant challenges and obstacles in reference to race, justice and equity. We witnessed yet another loss of life of Mr. Daunte Wright and Mr. George Floyd by the hands of police. We mourn with their families, children and community. We recognize the historical trauma that lies deep within our communities of color, and we feel the pain..

NBPA wants to send a strong message of hope, faith, and unity to community members and eliminate systemic racial disparities while policing our black and brown communities. NBPA is working to connect with the community to find a way forward.

Minnesota NBPA members live and serve within the communities that have personally been impacted the hardest. Far too often our communities and cities are at the forefront of despair. and destruction.

NBPA understands and accepts we are at a critical time for black and brown officers to stand up with the community and continue to bridge the gap between law enforcement and the community.

We are here to support our communities' overwhelming cry for equity, diversity, social change and justice right now. We are calling for legislative change in policing at the local, state and federal level. We are asking the United States Justice Department to step up and step in to help establish a way forward.

Daunte like many black men are often seen as threatening our communities, targets for brutally, and victims to those sworn to protect and serve. Men like Daunte are overcharged and underrepresented when and if they do make it to court. These career cases are often used to score points for prosecutors politically.

NBPA will continue to work with the city, state and federal officials to find solutions to problems affecting our communities. We stand for community justice, peace, and conflict resolutions to reduce trauma and loss of life, within our communities. We support policing crime not poverty.

Respectfully,

Director Suwana Kirkland
President, NBPA-MN