

The Black Law Student Association Chapter  
at the  
University of Houston Law Center



**June 5, 2020**

Dear University of Houston Law Center Community,

The University of Houston Law Center Black Law Students Association (BLSA) is saddened and disturbed by the murders of George Floyd, a son of Houston, TX's third ward community and graduate of Yates High School; David McAtee and Breonna Taylor of Louisville, KY; Tony McDade of Tallahassee, FL; Atatiana Jefferson of Fort Worth, TX; and countless others. We speak their names and extend our deepest condolences to their families and all who feel the pain of their wrongful deaths at the hands of police.

Black Americans live in a constant state of fear in this country and are tired. We are tired of being three times more likely to be killed by law enforcement officials and five times more likely to be incarcerated than our White counterparts. We are tired of the over-policing of Black communities, not because of higher rates of violent crime, but because of systemic racism ingrained in our society that Black bodies are dangerous and disposable. Finally, we are tired of being gaslit and silenced when daring to speak out about the unimaginable suffering caused by racism.

UHLC BLSA stands in solidarity with the families disproportionately impacted by police brutality and racism in America. We also stand with organizations seeking justice, such as the National Black Law Students Association (NBLSA), Black Lives Matter, Color of Change, grassroots organizations, and legal aid societies.

As a chapter, our mission is to cultivate and encourage the success of black law students in law school and the legal community. Inspired by our mission, we are calling on our alumni, classmates, faculty, fellow affinity groups, and the UHLC administration to stand with us in outwardly condemning racial injustice. Silence is no longer an option; as such, our chapter plans to publish a letter stating our goals and needs for the upcoming academic year. With this letter, we hope to make the collective voices of the marginalized heard, increase inclusion at the law center, and support the local community.

Read our words, hear our voices, and help us demand change.

**Black Lives Matter.**

Sincerely,

**The UHLC Black Law Students Association**