In light of the recent wrongful murders of several Black individuals at the hands of law enforcement officers across the country, the latest in a very long line of injustices committed against Black people in this country, OUTLaw at the University of Houston Law Center offers our unequivocal support to the victims and their families, to the Black Lives Matter movement, and to the Black community at UHLC and nationwide.

George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, David McAtee, Sean Reed: just a few Black individuals among too many others who were murdered by racist police officers. We extend our sincerest condolences to the victims, their families, and the Black community at large for their loss, and recognize that the anger felt and expressed by Black individuals in this country reflects over 400 years of degrading oppression. We not only condemn the actions of the officers who murdered these innocent Black individuals, we also fully support Black protestors in all forms of protest.

We would be remiss if we failed to highlight a fellow member of the LGBTQ+ community who was murdered by the police: Tony McDade, a Black transgender man. Too often, transgender individuals are erased from the narrative of police brutality when transgender folk, and particularly transgender people of color, are disproportionately victims of violence. Black transgender lives matter, and we, as an organization, mourn the death of one of our own and offer our deepest condolences to the loved ones of Tony McDade and all other Queer Black people who are senselessly harmed by the police and others.

As the sole organization for Queer law students on campus, our mission is to foster an environment of inclusivity and to promote justice. In addition to the inequities faced by Black students every day, the Black community on campus continues to suffer the consequences of systemic racism and ongoing grief as a result of the deaths of innocent Black people. We stand in solidarity with the Black individuals in the Queer community, the Black Law Students Association, and the Black community nationwide. We are committed to uplifting Queer Black voices, and fighting for justice for all Black lives at UHLC, in the greater Houston area, and beyond.

In Solidarity,
UHLC OUTLaw

Julio Gonzalez, President
Shannon Wright, Vice President
Brian Kay, Secretary
Rachel Eisenburg, Treasurer