NDLS Community,

On behalf of the Student Bar Association, the Diversity and Inclusion Committee would like to address our law school community regarding the abhorrent treatment of Black people in the United States. The systematic racism which facilitates police brutality against Black people deserves our attention as a legal institution. The murders of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and Ahmaud Arbery are three of the many senseless deaths that we must work toward preventing as future lawyers.

To our Black students, we may not be able to fully understand what you are feeling right now, but we promise to stand with you. Over the next year, we will provide training, programming, resources, and volunteer opportunities, so Notre Dame Law School can be truly inclusive. If SBA can help you in any way, please do not hesitate to reach out. As a reminder, the University Counseling Center is open.

To the rest of our community, silence and inaction is not an option. Being “a different kind of lawyer” is not simply a phrase printed on admission material but a call to a higher standard for all Notre Dame lawyers. Take time to educate yourself, listen to the Black community, and donate or volunteer. To get started, we recommend visiting this site for resources on what to read, who to follow, and what to watch.

The D&I Committee’s mission is to ensure that every NDLS student feels heard and valued. SBA stands with and supports our Black students. If you have any questions, concerns, or ideas for making SBA and NDLS an inclusive and antiracist environment, please contact Nereida Lopez or Libby Moyer.

Stay healthy and engaged,

Nereida Lopez and Libby Moyer
Co-Chairs of the SBA Diversity and Inclusion Committee