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June 3, 2020

The Executive Committee of the ACLA condemns the police killing of George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and countless others. We support all Black community responses and those acting in solidarity. We are outraged that city, state, and federal officials have answered their protests with further police repression.

As intellectuals we reject all rhetorical and legalistic strategies being deployed to delegitimize and divide an uprising. As an academic body, we refuse to suggest that we know the right way to protest, particularly when it has become clear that — even if it is our own stock in trade — no amount of reasoned discourse has turned the tide.

We urge Universities to defund police on campuses nationwide.

Our hearts are with Black communities who have endured prolonged and ceaseless violence with such astonishing forbearance.

Sangeeta Ray
President

Shu-mei Shih
Vice President

Rei Terada
Second Vice President

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