

Subject: Recent events

Date: Wednesday, June 3, 2020 at 10:28:23 AM Eastern Daylight Time

From: Leslie E. Wolf

To: Law Community

Dear College of Law Community,

The last few months have been challenging for our community and our nation. In the wake of recent senseless killings of Black people, we are seeing a groundswell of much-needed activism to rectify racial injustice—all against the backdrop of a public health crisis that is unprecedented in our lifetime. We acknowledge the courage and convictions of those who engage in peaceful protest, despite the risk of infection during a pandemic.

On Monday, our Ronald J. Freeman Chapter of the Black Law Students Association, supported by our other student organizations, issued a powerful statement of solidarity and support for each other and a call for systemic reform. Through this statement, our students displayed a commitment to justice for all people that the College of Law hopes to instill in them during their time with us.

We stand with our students, faculty, staff and alumni who are working to make our world a better place. Although the law has long been used to perpetuate inequities, it has also been a powerful tool for civil rights and justice. It is in the spirit of justice that we can move forward together for long-lasting, positive change.

These events and efforts are not without their emotional and physical toll. I want to remind you of some of the services available to you.

STUDENT RESOURCES

- [GSU Counseling Services](#)
- [GSU Student Health Services](#)
- [Download the WellTrack app](#)

FACULTY & STAFF RESOURCES

- [Therapy Assistance Online](#)
- [Wellness Services](#)
- [Office of Diversity Education Planning](#)

From our founding, Georgia State Law has been committed to improving access to justice in our communities. We support you and hope for your safety and well-being.

Best regards,
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Ronald J. Freeman Chapter of the Black Law Students Association

To the Georgia State College of Law Community,

The senseless murders of black people across the country at the hands of police officers have left all of us deeply saddened, troubled and disturbed. As we continue to process the recent events following the brutal murders of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor and most recently, George Floyd, we must all actively acknowledge and recognize the long history of injustices against black people in the United States of America. These tragic events and hashtag after hashtag signifying loss after loss of black lives are simply reminders that not enough progress has been made. We have so much more work to do.

These injustices are unacceptable and as a community we must demand better from our officers, elected officials and each other. We must continue to work to build an inclusive environment that acknowledges and respects all people. As students in higher education, we have a duty to be a positive influence in our communities and to push for more progress.

We stand with all victims of police brutality, their families and all of those affected by the senseless murder of black people in this country. We encourage you to speak out and stand in solidarity. If we remain silent, we are only enabling the systems that have worked for years to perpetuate oppression, hate, discrimination and injustice.

We hear you. We support you. We stand with you.

We are offering support to the student body during this time and wish to create an open space for dialogue surrounding these issues. How we set up the dialogue surrounding our country's racial issues shapes our perception and responses to what is going on today. The outrage we feel is pointless without properly addressing the causes. We recognize that it is everyone's responsibility to do the work necessary for healthy race relations and to end discriminatory treatment of black people by police officers.

As always, we will continue to uplift and empower our community and respond to its concerns. We encourage you to do so as well.

In Solidarity,

2020-2021 Black Law Students Association
2020-2021 Student Bar Association
2020-2021 American Constitution Society
2020-2021 Asian American Law Student Association
2020-2021 Business Law Society
2020-2021 Christian Legal Society
2020-2021 Criminal Law Society
2020-2021 Environmental Law Society
2020-2021 Estate Planning & Wealth Management Law Society
2020-2021 Family Law Society
2020-2021 Georgia Association for Women Lawyers- GSU
2020-2021 GSU Law Review
2020-2021 GSU Moot Court
2020-2021 GSU OUT Law
2020-2021 GSU Student Trial Lawyers Association

2020-2021 Immigration Law Society
2020-2021 Intellectual Property Law Society
2020-2021 James Oglethorpe Legal Society
2020-2021 Jewish Law Student Association
2020-2021 Latinx and Caribbean Law Student Association
2020-2021 Law Students for Reproductive Justice
2020-2021 Legal Analytics Association
2020-2021 Muslim Law Student Association
2020-2021 National Lawyers Guild Georgia State Chapter
2020-2021 Parents Attending Law School
2020-2021 Phi Alpha Delta
2020-2021 Public Interest Law Association
2020-2021 Sports and Entertainment Law Society
2020-2021 Student Health Law Association
2020-2021 Wellness in Law Society