

Syracuse University

COLLEGE OF LAW

Dear College of Law Community,

Over these last few days, we've observed yet again nationwide protests sparked by continuous, senseless acts of oppression and violence, injustice and racism. We join in anguish and mourning with the families of George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery and the many dozens of other victims of racist violence perpetrated both by police and by individual members of our society. We grieve with—and as—Black people and people of color in this country who are fearful, frustrated and angry. All of us not only yearn for a better tomorrow—a tomorrow without violence, injustice and racism—we want it with all of our being. We wish it for each other, for ourselves, for our friends and neighbors, and for our sons and daughters and their futures.

But wishing for change will not make it happen. In processing the events of this weekend, I've been heartened by the response of my young adult children and their friends across social media who in the midst of their own fear have peacefully protested or worked to encourage meaningful action. My youngest son, a junior at the iSchool, channeled his frustration this weekend by purchasing his domain name and creating a website of resources on racial inequities and police violence against Black people to help us all better understand systemic racism and take meaningful action to address it. Here's the link: [Read. Watch. Act.](#) That's powerful. Change will only happen if all of us involve ourselves in making it.

Although there is physical distance between us because of another dividing force affecting our nation—COVID-19, as a College of Law family we are together in our purpose—to learn and uphold the law, to pursue truth and justice, and to use the law to improve our society. Above all, we are together in our unwavering belief that there is no room for racism or bigotry, ever, anywhere. Not at the College of Law, not in Syracuse, not in New York and not in our United States.

I am thinking of all of you.

In solidarity,

Craig M. Boise

Dean and Professor | College of Law