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PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The LLBC Mourns the Recent Killing of George Floyd

Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Amidst, the various press releases and media coverage the Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus (LLBC), did not want its message to be overshadowed or lost in the wake of the multiple messaging regarding this tragic and sensitive event.

As the LLBC reflects, on the growing concern of displayed hurt, anger, turmoil, rallies and protests that have taken place over the last week in Minneapolis, Minnesota and countless other states – the LLBC members would like to express its deepest and sincere condolences to the family of George Floyd as they mourn the loss of his senseless killing and untimely death. This tragic event has sparked nationwide protests and demonstrations as an outcry for America to take a stand for social justice and change regardless of a person's race, color or social economic status.

Victim, George Floyd, a 46-years old, father, brother and loyal friend according to his boss, was killed on Memorial Day by now fired and charged police officer Derek Chauvin who pinned his knee on Floyd's neck for an alleged forgery that wasn't proven to be fact. While we respect the difficult role of law enforcement to keep our community safe we also expect them to fulfill their duties with respect for the rights of all Americans.

State Senator James "Jimmy" Harris, III, Chairman of the LLBC stated, "as we grieve yet another senseless tragic loss of black life, we condemn in the strongest way possible the actions of all four officers involved in the situation. Regrettably, this tragic event marks another sad day in the American landscape where systemic racism and police brutality are at the helm of these unjust actions. We have to become proactive change agents where we create an environment that is safe for all Americans to live free from harm and fear".

As members of the Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus (LLBC), we will continue to be vigilant in our work with social justice issues and seek viable solutions in working with police officers and law enforcement officials within the state of Louisiana and the community to prevent such unnecessary situations from reoccurring. Again, in the tragic death of George Floyd we are deeply saddened and want to see these injustices resolved. However, as a community and nation we must seek out peaceful protests/demonstrations and develop legislative policies and practices as viable courses of action until justice is legally served locally, federally and nationally.

With these thoughts in mind, the 37- members of the LLBC will be in continuous prayer for the family of George Floyd and the entire state of the Minneapolis, Minnesota and our entire country.

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Established in 1977, the primary purpose of the Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus is to raise the quality of life for those underrepresented, the indigent and working people through legislation, education and economic development.