



Office of the Special Narcotics Prosecutor for the City of New York
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Bridget Brennan Statement on Conviction of Derek Chauvin

The guilty verdict in the trial of Derek Chauvin allows some light to shine through the dark cloud that has too often hovered over the criminal justice system. The verdict affirms the value of George Floyd's life, but his senseless death demands an immediate response from those in criminal justice roles. We must do all we can to restore community trust and ensure a fair and equitable justice system.

After witnessing his horrifying death at the hand of a police officer duty-bound to protect all, millions have been stirred to decry the painful history of racism in the criminal justice system and inequities that continue today. The emotional process of hearing those who have been harmed and taking action in response has only begun, and we will remain steadfast in our commitment. Systemic criminal justice changes that emphasize the value of every human life will be George Floyd's legacy, and we hope that will provide comfort to his family and loved ones, and the community at large.

The verdict reached yesterday, and the overwhelmingly positive and peaceful response to it, is a signal of more change and reform to come, until the criminal justice system is truly a fair one for all. The Office of the Special Narcotics Prosecutor is committed to serving all people, regardless of color of skin, religion, beliefs or sexual preferences, and to do our part to achieve equity in the criminal justice system. We will continue our efforts to reassess, reform, and build a system that is the best it can be for all.