



LEXINGTON-FAYETTE URBAN COUNTY HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

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The tragic and unnecessary deaths of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor sharply illustrate the deep roots of discrimination and racism that have plagued our country for hundreds of years and continue to do so. These most recent abuses of power are abhorrent and can no longer be tolerated. The Lexington-Fayette Urban County Human Rights Commission denounces acts of racism consistently faced in Black communities. The members of the Commission believe Black Lives Matter and the Commission remains dedicated to promoting human rights in the Lexington-Fayette County community.

The Commission serves to investigate cases of discrimination in the areas of employment, housing, and public accommodation. We remain steadfast in our commitment to address racial disparities not only in our statutory mandates, but also in the community at large. Our commitment is to assist and serve in any way that will help end discrimination and we will continue to work toward the development of appropriate programs and policies that ensure the fair and equal treatment of Black individuals in our community.

The Commission is made up of diverse individuals whose purpose is to promote and secure mutual understanding and respect among all in Fayette County. The Commission also serves as a conciliator in controversies involving inter-group and inter-racial relations, by enlisting the support of civic, religious, laborer, and

commercial groups and leaders dedicated to the improvement of human relations and the elimination of discriminatory practices.

For many years, the Commission has embraced a Community Relations Program that includes developing relationships with the Urban County Government, the Lexington Police Department and the Fayette County Sheriff's Office. Through the Commission's work with these law enforcement agencies, we have sought to promote efforts of community discourse, including those surrounding police accountability, in a public forum.

We applaud the efforts of the local community activists in promoting peaceful demonstrations and for opening up avenues of dialogue and discussion with the police and enforcement authorities.

As we look forward to a better future for all of us, the Commission will continue to work to ensure the end of systemic racism and the inequality it fosters in our own community.

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