# Police Reform and Civil Rights



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## **George Floyd**

- On May 25, Minneapolis police officers arrested George Floyd, a 46-year-old Black man, after a convenience store employee called 911 and told the police that Mr. Floyd had bought cigarettes with a counterfeit \$20 bill.
- Seventeen minutes after the first squad car arrived at the scene, Mr. Floyd was unconscious and pinned beneath three police officers, killed by their excessive use of force.





## **Say Their Names**

Akai Gurley Freddie Gray Michelle Cusseaux Gabriella Nevarez **Botham Jean Aura Rosser** Alatiana Jefferson Tamir Rice Philando Castille Breonna Taylor Michael Brown

Janisha Fonville
Eric Garner
Tanisha Anderson
Stephon Clark
Alton Sterling
George Floyd

All killed by law enforcement.





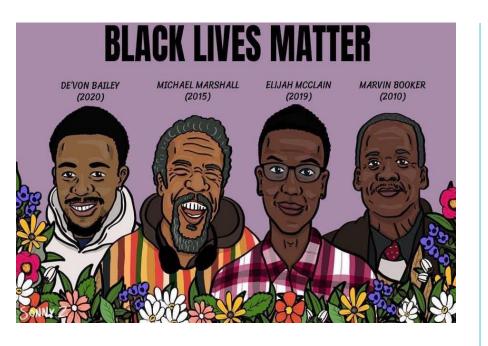
#### Police Accountability in the 2020 Legislative Session



#### **SB20-217: Enhance Law Enforcement Integrity**

- Ends qualified immunity
- Mandates body cameras
- Requires data collection & public reporting
- Reins in officer use of deadly force by outlawing chokeholds, deadly force against someone fleeing the police & deadly force to arrest people for non-violent offenses
- Creates officer duty to intervene
- Provides for decertification of bad officers
- Prevents rehiring of bad officers
- Protects protesters from police use of tear gas & projectiles
- Authorizes the Attorney General to bring lawsuits against bad police departments

#### Police Accountability in the 2021 Legislative Session



- Ends no knock warrants
- Provides for demilitarization of police departments
- Prevents officers from shooting into vehicles
- Requires public disclosure of Brady letters
- Ends resisting arrest charges when there is no legal authority to detain
- Ends the crime of failure to follow a lawful order
- Strengthens use of force standard

#### Police Response to BLM



Black Lives Matter protesters sit in the street to protest the police killing of George Floyd.



Officers in full riot gear used tear-gas, rubber bullets and batons against peaceful protestors.









Police offices have shot, beaten and even used cars to run down Black Lives Matter protesters, leaving some with permanent disabilities. Shantania Love was permanently blinded by a rubber bullet (photo above).



#### Police Response to Jan 6



Trump supporters scale the walls of the Capitol's Senate during the insurrection.



Only a few hundred Capitol Police officers faced the massive crowds.



## **COVID-19: Racial Disparities**

- Black people account for around 4% of Colorado's population and yet, account for 7.6% of all COVID-19 cases and 7% of all deaths.
- Latinx people represent just over 21% of Colorado's population, but account for 35% of COVID-19 cases.
- Black and Latinx Coloradans account for only 1.8% and 4.3% of people receiving the vaccine.





#### **Prisons: Racial Disparities**

- Though Black and Latinx people make up around 32% of the US population, they comprise 56% of all incarcerated people.
- Black men are six times as likely to be incarcerated as white men and Latinx men are 2.7 times as likely.
- Black people are around 4% of the population in Colorado but 18% of the prison population.
- Approximately 32% of people serving a life-without-parole sentence are Black and 33% of people serving life with parole sentences are Black.





# **Questions & Comments**

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