

**Sacramento County Young Democrats  
Resolution Calling for a New Approach to Public Safety**

**WHEREAS**, the killing of George Floyd by officers of the Minneapolis Police Department on May 25, 2020 has led to protests, both across the globe and here in Sacramento County, calling for the dismantling of the racist institutional structures undergirding our Criminal Justice system; and

**WHEREAS**, use of deadly force by local law enforcement agencies between 2013 and 2019 has resulted in the deaths of at least 36 individuals, at least 10 of whom were admitted to be unarmed; and

**WHEREAS**, despite Blacks making up less than 14% of the City of Sacramento's population, Blacks made up over 40% of those killed by Officers of the Sacramento Police Department between 2013 and 2019; and

**WHEREAS**, after the unjust killing of Stephon Clark by officers of the Sacramento Police Department and the application of intense political pressure by the community, the City of Sacramento initiated some reforms, such as the mandatory use of on-duty body cameras by the Sacramento Police Department, which has increased transparency, and the creation a Police Review Commission whose own Commissioners have found it to be lacking in power and authority; and

**WHEREAS**, despite vocal opposition from the community, the city recently purchased a new armoured vehicle for the Sacramento Police Department; and

**WHEREAS**, despite Blacks making up less than 9% of unincorporated Sacramento County and the City of Isleton with whom the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department is contracted to provide police services, Blacks made up over 30% of those killed by Sacramento Sheriff's Department between 2013 and 2019; and

**WHEREAS**, the Sacramento County Jail is notorious for its bad conditions and even worse administration by Sheriff Scott R. Jones, his tenure having resulted in several inmate deaths and numerous exposes and lawsuits; and

**WHEREAS**, the District Attorney of the County of Sacramento, Anne Marie Shubert, has regularly declined to prosecute members of law enforcement for their misconduct up to and including the killing of unarmed individuals; and

**WHEREAS**, the Defense Logistics Agency's 1033 Program has transferred military-grade weapons including grenade launchers and armored vehicles to various law enforcement agencies within the County of Sacramento; and

**WHEREAS**, the military-grade equipment so procured under the Defense Logistics Agency's 1033 Program was used against peaceful protesters on numerous occasions during the protests following George Floyd's death; and

**WHEREAS**, Sacramento's Mayor, Darrell Steinberg has put forward a new proposal for police reform, including but not limited to, the creation of an inspector general to review police use of force, along with the creation of a new unarmed response agency to address homelessness and mental health issues; and

**WHEREAS**, activists throughout the local community are calling for the police to be defunded and the newly freed dollars to be reallocated to various community services,

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Sacramento County Young Democrats supports the call to defund and/or reallocate currently budgeted police and sheriffs funding into programs to aid communities most harmed by systemic racism, over-policing, and disproportionate arrests and conviction statistics; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that SCYD supports the expansion of alternative sentencing programs as a means to eliminate the root causes of many crimes - including poverty, drug abuse, addiction, and untreated mental illness - without the creation of a permanent criminal record; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that SCYD supports a limit to the use of force by law enforcement personnel throughout Sacramento County (this includes ending the policies outlined by the 8CantWait campaign), and clear protocols, accessible to the public, to establish when the use of force is justified and permitted; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that SCYD supports the development of independent non-law enforcement response entities to support mental health crises and other non-violent community disturbances; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that SCYD supports all law enforcement agencies throughout Sacramento County being demilitarized by ending the use of military-grade weapons including, but not limited to: grenade launchers, tear gas, and pepper spray, while also being held accountable to de-escalation practices for peaceful protest; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that SCYD supports the use of body cameras for all law enforcement personnel throughout Sacramento County as a means to document law enforcement encounters with civilians, with punishments for peace officers who deactivate or disable their body camera; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that SCYD supports independent investigations for all peace officer-involved deaths and hospitalizations, including those which occurred during the recent protests of George Floyd's killing; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that SCYD supports police training that includes but is not limited to de-escalation, use of force, anti-bias, and crisis intervention; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that SCYD supports increasing police accountability by reexamining police contracts, state law, and federal policy regarding qualified immunity; and

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that the Sacramento County Young Democrats acknowledge and proclaim that BLACK LIVES MATTER.