



NAACP
Pennsylvania
STATE CONFERENCE

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

May 25, 2021

CONTACT:

Diana Robertson, Communications

Email: communications@pastatenaacp.org

215-605-5327

A YEAR LATER

May 25th represents the anniversary of the murder of George Floyd. With all of the outrage, human cries for change, it was President Joe Biden's hope that the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act which was passed by the House, would also be passed by the Senate. The Justice in Policing Act that was passed by the House included banning chokeholds, carotid holds and "no-knock" search warrants at the federal level. Federal funding for state and local law enforcement would be tied to officials banning those practices. This would make it easier to prosecute police and create a national database of police misconduct. However, it appears that one of the main obstacles in the stalling of the Senate passing the bill is the issue of *qualified immunity*. Transformed minds and police reform regarding policies and laws along with specific conversations on building community relations within the local municipalities is a beginning to promoting racial justice.

President Kenneth Huston of the NAACP Pennsylvania State Conference says, "He believes conversation and building relationship is critical to the beginning of real change taking place." Therefore, on Saturday, May 29, 2021, at 11:30 a.m. a *Forum on Policing in our Community* will be held at the Community Center at Pitcairn, 549 Broadway, Pitcairn, PA 15140. This is a forum that is hosted by the NAACP Allegheny East Branch in partnership with the NAACP Pennsylvania State Conference. Additionally, the action that we can all take is to contact our US Senators and make it clear that they need to vote to pass the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act. It will serve to represent a sincere effort to begin real criminal justice reform which starts with community policing. Criminal justice and public safety is one of the core game changers promoted by the National Association of the NAACP. Since the death of George Floyd, many African Americans have continued to be killed by the hands of police. We are Done Dying!

###

Founded in 1909, the NAACP is the nation's oldest and largest nonpartisan civil rights organization. Its members throughout the United States and the world are the premier advocates for civil rights in their communities. The Pennsylvania State Conference was established in 1934 and pursues the same mission throughout the Commonwealth.