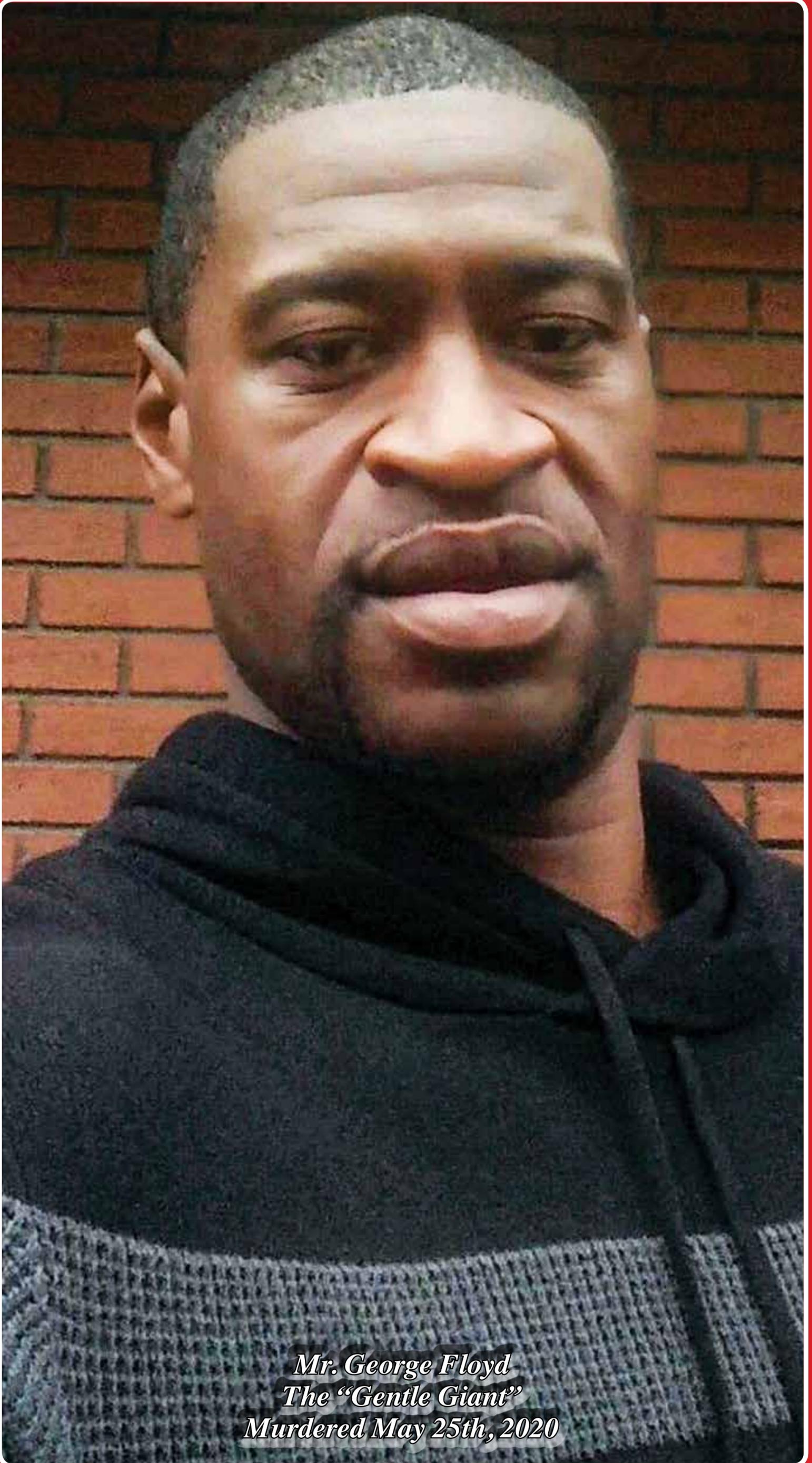


The California
ADVOCATE

Volume 54 No. 9: May 28th, 2020

Fresno's African American Community Newspaper



*Mr. George Floyd
The "Gentle Giant"
Murdered May 25th, 2020*

PRESORTED
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
FRESNO, CA
PERMIT NO. 35
CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



THE CALIFORNIA ADVOCATE
P.O. Box 11826 • Fresno, CA 93775
www.caladvocate.com
Volume 54 ~ No 9 May 28, 2020



Police, experts condemn knee restraint used on George Floyd

By LISA MARIE PANE

Police around the nation and law enforcement experts on Thursday broadly condemned the way George Floyd, who died in Minneap-

olis police custody this week, was restrained by an officer who dug his knee into the man's neck, saying no circumstances warrant such a dangerous technique.

Deeply disturbing video shot by a bystander shows Floyd handcuffed, lying on his stomach and seemingly subdued as the officer trying to arrest him pressed his knee

down on Floyd's neck for nearly eight minutes.

Some police officials and experts said equally shocking was something not seen in the video: Other officers

on the scene apparently did not try to intervene even as Floyd repeatedly cried out that

"Any officer who abuses their power or stands by and allows it to happen does not deserve to wear the badge, period," Chicago Police Superintendent David O. Brown said.

Floyd, 46, was arrested Monday after an employee at a grocery store called police to accuse him of trying to pass a counterfeit \$20 bill. The cellphone video shows Floyd, who is black, face-down on the ground with his hands cuffed behind his back, as officer Derek Chauvin, who is white, uses the knee restraint on his neck.

Floyd's head is turned to the side and he does not appear to be resisting. As the minutes tick by and Chauvin continues to hold him down, Floyd's complaints about not being able to breathe stop as he falls silent and motionless. Toward the end of the video, paramedics arrive, lift a limp Floyd onto a stretcher and place him in an ambulance.

"He wasn't actively resisting, and he was saying he couldn't breathe," said Charles P. Stephenson, a former police officer and FBI agent with expertise in use-of-force tactics. "You have to understand that possibility is there (that Floyd couldn't breathe), and you release any kind of restriction you might have on an airway immediately."

Chauvin and the three other responding officers have been fired, and the FBI is investigating whether they willfully deprived Floyd of his civil rights. Chauvin has not spoken publicly, and his attorney has not responded to calls seeking comment.

Police recruits learn a variety of use-of-force techniques at the academy, all with the idea that any force employed may equal but not exceed the physical resistance offered by a suspect.

One technique is to restrain someone on the ground face-down, but officers are taught to press a part of the lower leg, such as the shin or top of the ankle, across the shoulders or the back. In some cases officers will "hog-tie" suspects' legs to prevent flight or violent resistance.

But "no police academy that we know of teaches a police officer to use their knee, to put it on their neck," said Chuck Wexler, executive director of the Police Executive Research Forum, which researches and advises on police practices. "That's just not taught because that can impact their breathing and their carotid artery (a crucial vessel that supplies blood to the brain). So when police

look at that video, they are shocked that those tactics were used."

What's more, officers are taught to get a suspect up from the ground as soon as possible, either sitting or standing, since lying on one's stomach can cause breathing problems, especially for larger people.

"If what we saw was a continuing, ongoing fight, I could see how a leg, for example, could slip to the back of the neck. But this is not what I'm seeing," said John Bostain, a former officer and president of Command Presence, which trains police around the country. "I'm seeing a fight that appears to be over."

Floyd's case and the recent shooting death of Ahmaud Arbery in Georgia have once again laid bare the divide between minority communities and law enforcement that grew to a nationwide uproar following the officer killings of Eric Garner and Michael Brown in 2014 and the death of Freddie Gray in police custody in 2015, among others. Videos from bystanders and police cameras have helped elevate such cases to national scrutiny.

Law enforcement officials often ask that people reserve judgment in such cases until all facts — what transpired before or after what a video shows — are known. But the Floyd case has drawn swift and widespread condemnation.

The Fraternal Order of Police, for example, issued a statement saying in part: "The fact that he was a suspect in custody is immaterial — police officers should at all times render aid to those who need it. Police officers need to treat all of our citizens with respect and understanding and should be held to the very highest standards for their conduct."

Law enforcement experts say tempers can flare when a suspect resists arrest, but it's incumbent upon fellow officers with cooler heads to defuse the situation and put a stop to excessive force.

But there's no sign from the video that any of the officers at the scene with Chauvin tried to intervene. For some that had chilling echoes of the police beating of Rodney King in Los Angeles in 1991 despite the presence of a supervising officer.

"That bothered me greatly," said Stephenson, the use-of-force expert. "They all have an affirmative duty and obligation to uphold the law and uphold the procedures and to stop any violation of law or excessive use of force that they're a witness to. ... It didn't look like those officers were making any effort to go over or say something or do anything."

White People Who Cry "Wolf"



EDITORIAL
By DORIS ELLENWOOD, VP
ADVOCATE NEWSPAPER

When a White person's White privilege is threatened, the most liberal and progressive White person's racial bias will be exposed. Social media is riddled with videos of White people exposing their racial bias by calling Wolf, (AKA) the police on Black people. From Black people barbecuing in a park to a young Black girl selling bottled water to raise money for a trip to Disneyland. When a White person calls the police on a Black person, they know it could lead to the unjust treatment, or killing of a Black person.

White people use their White privilege as their personal weapon of choice against Black people. In the case of Amy Cooper, Amy used her White femaleness as a weapon against Christen Cooper, a Black man, (unrelated) knowing that her cries of a Black man threatening her would be perceived by the White police as a threat.

On May 26, 2020 In New York Central Park Amy Cooper exposed the reality of how White people use their Whiteness and the White police as their weapon of choice against Black people. I find it disturbing how Amy, who was illegally walking her dog without a leash in Central Park felt she was being threaten by Christian Cooper for calling her out on it. White privilege is a product of White fragility. White people are so afraid of losing their status as being the superior race, (which they gave themselves), that they resort to doing unspeakable things, like in the case of Amy Cooper. Ms. Cooper, was obviously not in any danger, but she was annoyed by Christan Cooper's audacity to tell her; a White woman what to do.

Make no mistake about it, Amy Cooper was not threat-



(Top) Amy Cooper charges at Mr. Christian Cooper, a Black man, and demands he stop recording her. (Above) Amy Cooper concocts a story and calls police to say that "An African American" man is attacking her and threatening her and her dog's life.

ened by Christan Cooper's Blackness, Amy's White privilege was being threaten. Amy was put in her place by Christan Cooper, a Black man. At that moment Amy Cooper did not feel any physical threat by Christian; her White privilege was being threatened. In order for Amay to regain her White status and put this Black man in his place, she did what most White people do; they Cry Wolf, call the police and make false accusations about

Black people.

I don't know if Amy Cooper is a liberal or conservative. What I do know; even the most liberal and progressive White person cry Wolf when their White privilege is being threaten. For information and understanding on racism and White fragility,

I encourage you to watch Dr. Robin DiAngelo's YouTube Video, "White Fragility" at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=45ey4jgoxeU>

To advertise or subscribe call the Advocate @ (559) 268-0941 or visit our facebook page (The California Advocate Newspaper)

The California Advocate
W.C.B.P.A. (West Coast Black Publishers Association)
N.N.P.A. (National Newspaper Publisher's Association)

Mark Kimber	• Publisher
Doris Ellenwood	• Vice President
Lesly H. Kimber	• Founder
Pauline Kimber	• Webmaster
Julease Graham	• Communications
Taylor Kimber	• Photo Journalist
Marty Solis	• Office Management
Whitney McPherson	

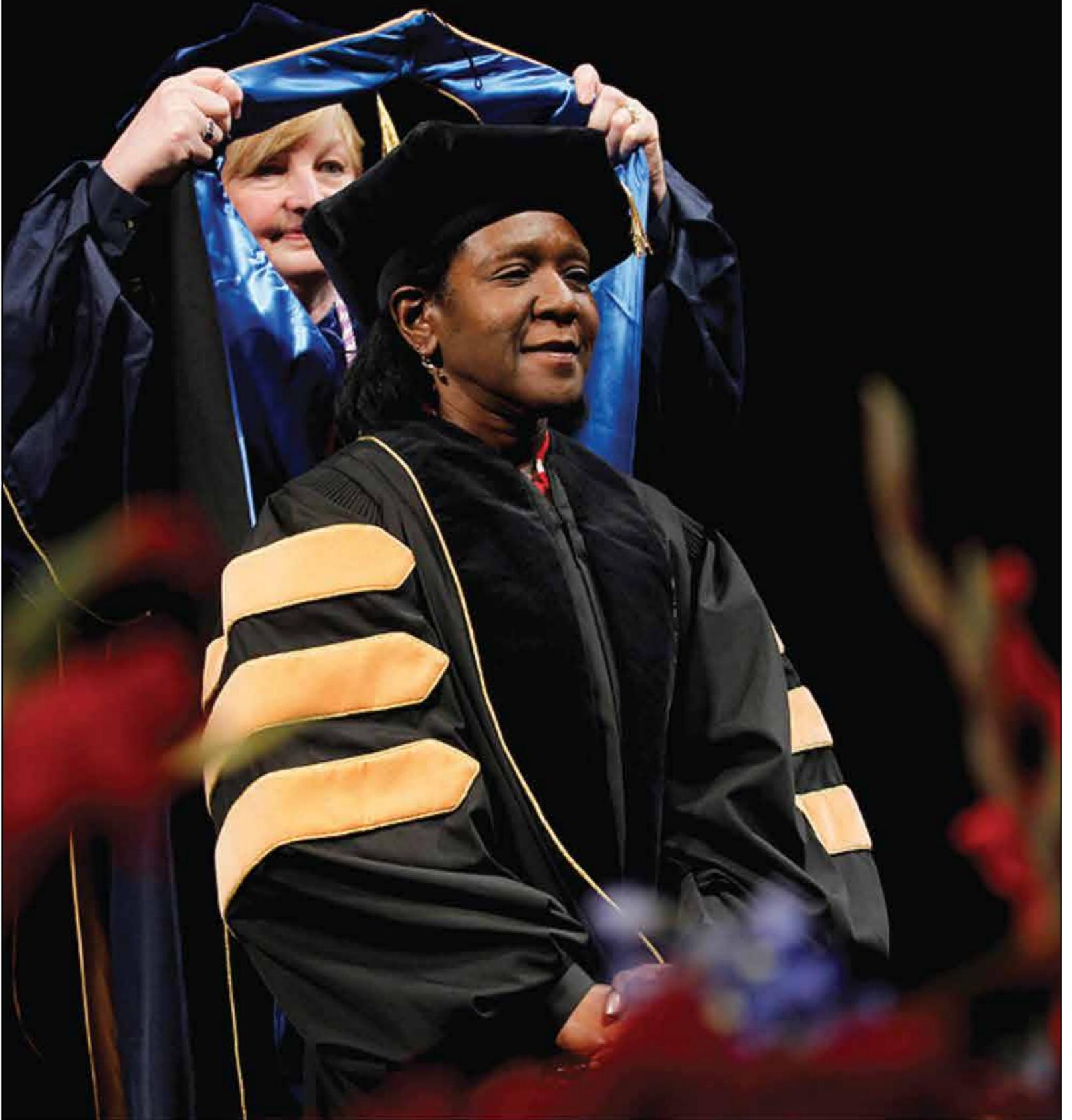
1555 E Street • Fresno, CA 93706
www.caladvocate.com
(559) 268-0941
Fax: (559) 268-0943
Email news stories to:
Newsroom@caladvocate.com
For Ad inquiries email to:
Ads@caladvocate.com

Attention Advocate Reader

On Page 8 of this issue there is a graphic photo of the murder of Mr. George Floyd at the hands of the Minneapolis police. We print this photo in the vein of Emmitt Till and the positive impact towards change certain images have on society.

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”

– NELSON MANDELA



As we educate and empower students to become the next generation of leaders, we also celebrate the world’s most revered trailblazers who embraced diversity and seized opportunity for peace and social justice. Nelson Mandela was a bold leader who fought for emancipation while instilling a legacy of academic values.

Fresno State’s Peace Garden is a tribute to lives devoted to peace and activism. The garden celebrates renowned leaders including Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Mahatma Gandhi, and a committee has been formed to add a statue in memory of Nelson Mandela.

This project relies on private funds and your support will be instrumental in making this vision a reality. To make a gift to the Nelson Mandela Tribute Fund, visit fresnostate.edu/peacegarden

Where **bold** begins.

FRESNO STATE.
Discovery. Diversity. Distinction.



ABOVE: George Floyd's two brothers and cousin Tera Brown, center, Philonise Floyd, left, and Rodney Floyd, right.

The George Floyd murder by Minneapolis police sparks protests across the U.S. and globally. (SEE PHOTOS BELOW)

George Floyd Family Still Demands First-Degree Murder Charge Against Police Officers

The family of George Floyd is calling for an upgrade in the criminal charges against former Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin, from 3rd degree murder to 1st degree.

The family also is calling for charges against the other officers at the scene when a handcuffed Floyd begged for his life as Chauvin pressed his knee into Floyd's neck.

"We call on authorities to revise the charges to reflect the true culpability of this officer," the family statement reads. Later in the statement, the family says, "For four officers to inflict this kind of unnecessary, lethal force – or watch it happen – despite outcry from witnesses who were recording the violence – demonstrates a breakdown in training and policy by the City."

"Today," the statement says, "George Floyd's family is having to explain to his children why their father was executed by police on video."

This morning after protesters set fire overnight to a Minneapolis police station, Chauvin was arrested and charged with third-degree murder and manslaughter. The key to an upgrade in charges revolves around a determination of Chauvin's intent and premeditation to cause Floyd's death.

In footage of Floyd's arrest, Floyd pleaded to Chauvin as the officer pressed his knee against Floyd's neck. Floyd screamed, "I can't breathe!" before he died.

County prosecutor Mike Freeman spoke out on Friday, revealing that Chauvin, whom he called "the most dangerous" officer, had been charged with manslaughter and third degree murder. Freeman said that the case was moving along very swiftly and that the other three former officers are under investigation.

The third night of protests, which sometimes turned violent, saw demonstrations spread beyond Minneapolis.

On Thursday night, New York City police arrested 72 people during a protest that began in Manhattan's Union Square; five people were charged with assaulting officers with street debris. "We didn't expect this," Chief Terence A. Monahan said Friday morning in a radio

interview. We didn't expect them to be so confrontational and right off the bat charging police officers and pushing police officers."

In Los Angeles on Thursday, for the second night in a row, a small group, some shouting expletives directed at police, gathered outside the Los Angeles Police Department headquarters. They chanted "we want justice" and "black lives matter."

On Friday, the LAPD released a statement that affirmed protesters' First Amendment rights but also contained a warning:

The violence involved dangerous projectiles directed at our people as well as some property damage to businesses in the area. While isolated, if left unchallenged we face the potential of those actions expanding and hurting innocent individuals. This Department will continue to facilitate spontaneous and planned protests. However, dangerous behavior will not be allowed, and the LAPD will take enforcement action on anyone who endanger fellow peaceful protestors, police officers, and the general public.

Chief Moore stated, "We stand with our communities and rebuke any instance of police brutality as well as acts of violence or property damage."

Finally, in Minneapolis demonstrators set fire to a police building that had been abandoned by officers, after which CNN correspondent Omar Jimenez and his crew were arrested.

Minnesota governor Tim Walz apologized on Friday morning before saying, "None of us can tackle these problems, if anarchy reigns on the street"

Presumptive Democratic presidential nominee Joe Biden spoke out, saying he had been in touch with the Floyd family. Biden said officers deprived George Floyd of his humanity. "The original sin of this country still stains our nation today," he went on, "and sometimes we manage to overlook it... But it's always there. Weeks like this we see it plainly: That we are a country with an open wound."

Black leaders in Minneapolis held their own news conference on Friday, calling for justice and the arrest of all four of the former officers.



Chicago, Illinois



Los Angeles, California



Seattle, Washington



Houston, Texas



Philadelphia, Pennsylvania



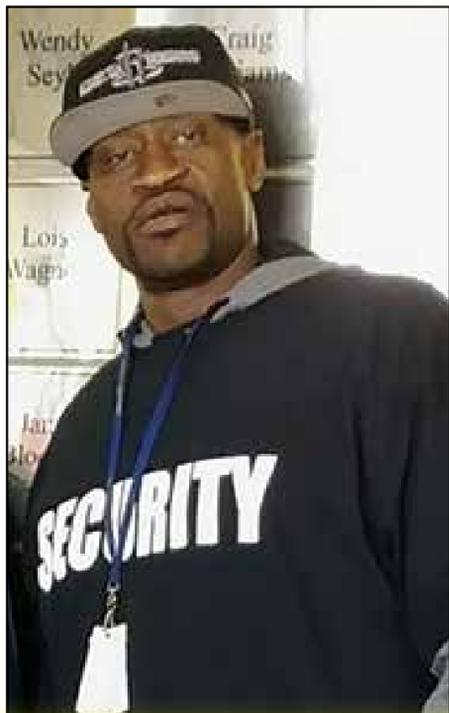
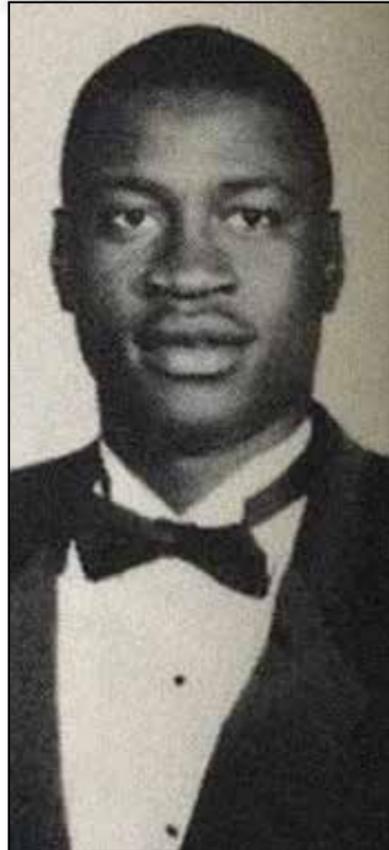
Minneapolis, Minnesota



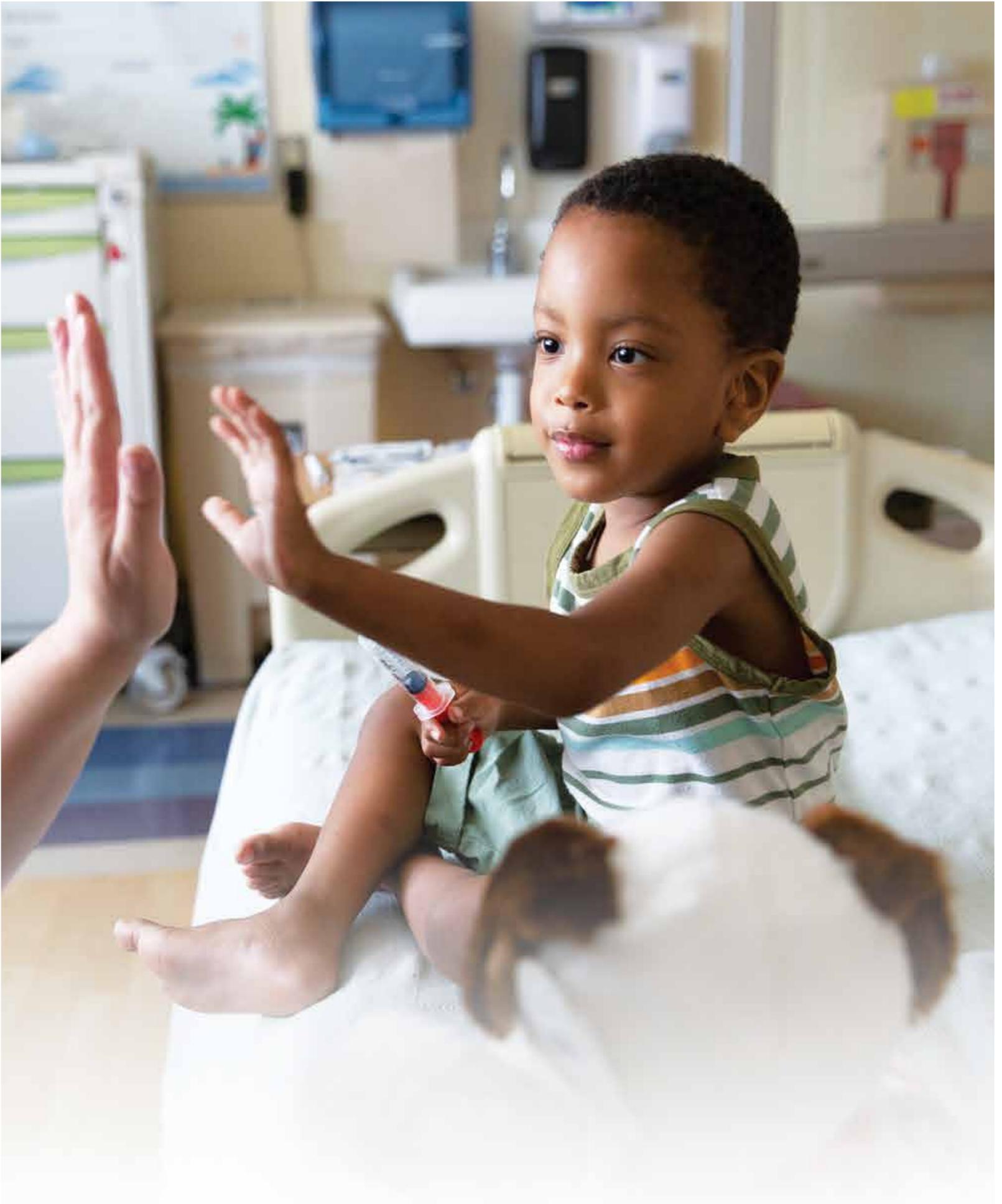
Minneapolis, Minnesota



Manhattan, N.Y. residents, protest the killing of George Floyd.



Pictures in the life of
Mr. George Floyd
“The Gentle Giant”



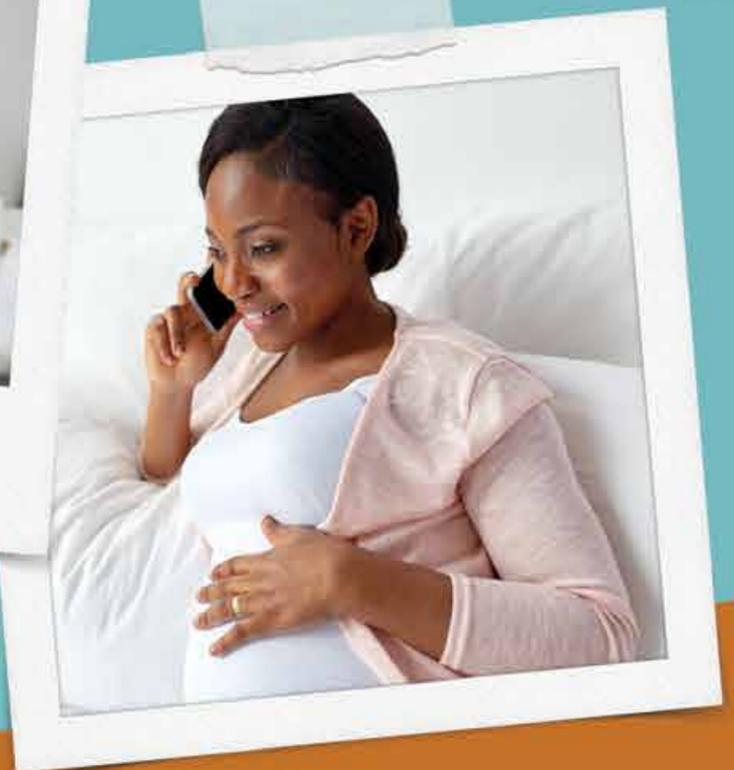
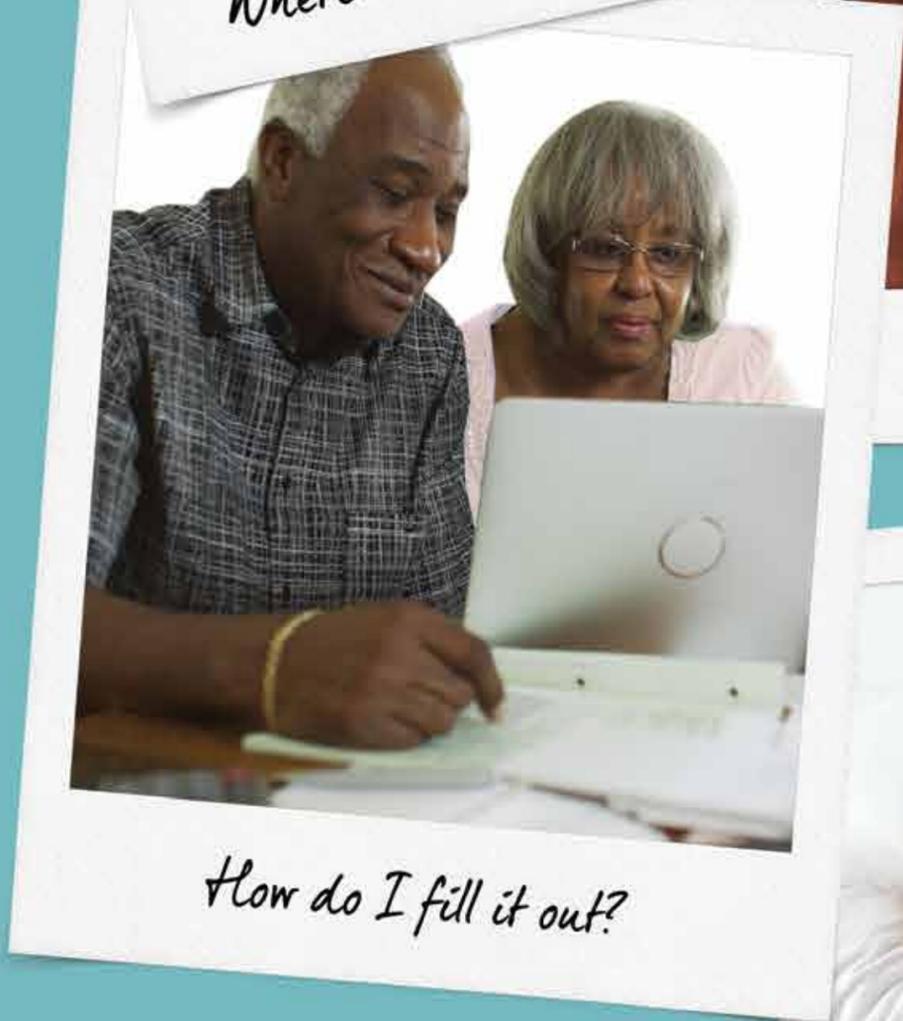
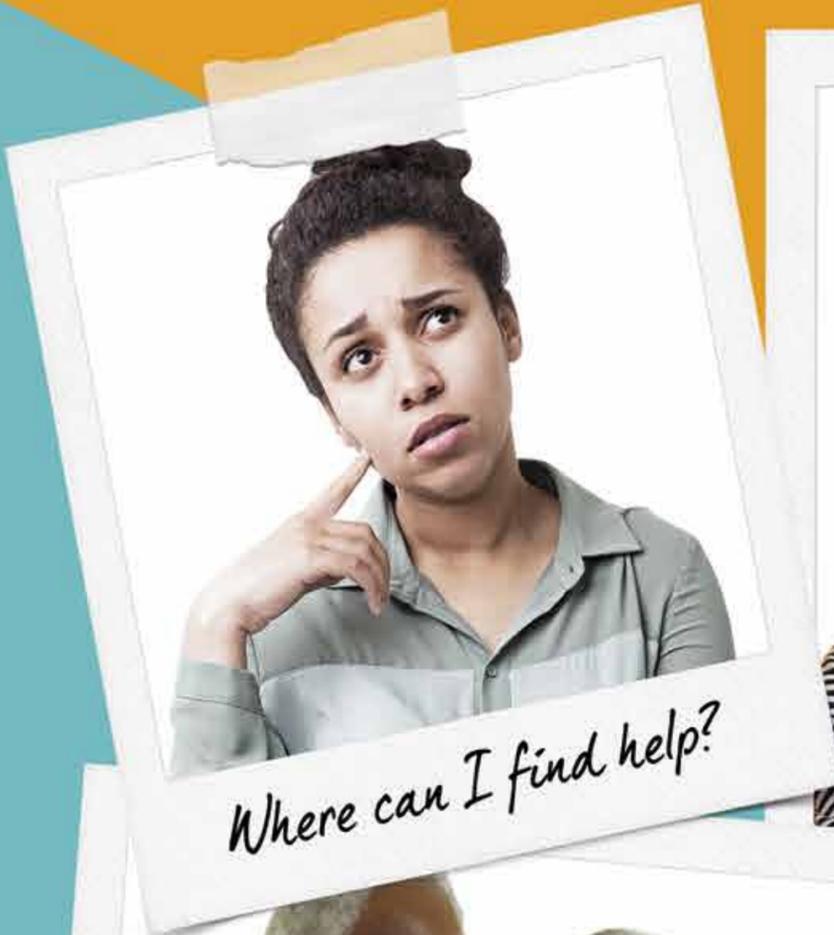
We've been together from the start.

At Community, we deliver about 10,000 babies a year. And as we've watched them grow, we realized we must grow too - to see them through all stages of life.

Through our partnership with UCSF, parents now have more options than ever.



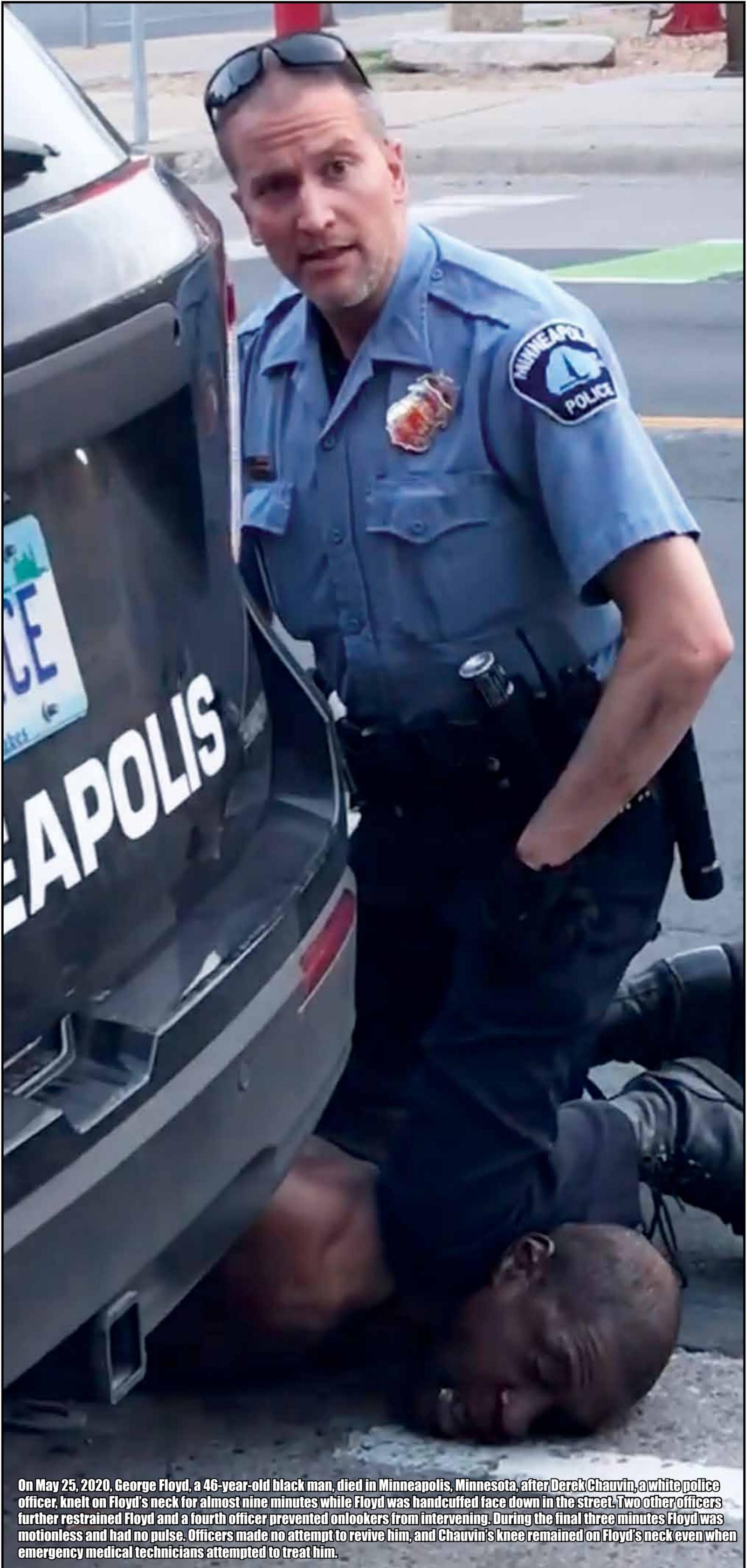
Have Questions About the Census?



Don't Hesitate to Ask Online or By Phone!

Your right to know is just as important as your right to count. Take advantage of the Census hotline's callback option by calling **844-330-2020** to get your questions answered. Then, complete the Census by phone or online at **MY2020CENSUS.GOV**.





On May 25, 2020, George Floyd, a 46-year-old black man, died in Minneapolis, Minnesota, after Derek Chauvin, a white police officer, knelt on Floyd's neck for almost nine minutes while Floyd was handcuffed face down in the street. Two other officers further restrained Floyd and a fourth officer prevented onlookers from intervening. During the final three minutes Floyd was motionless and had no pulse. Officers made no attempt to revive him, and Chauvin's knee remained on Floyd's neck even when emergency medical technicians attempted to treat him.