

## DISABILITY LAW CENTER

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June 5, 2020

Black lives matter. The Disability Law Center of Alaska denounces the cruel and senseless killings of George Floyd in Minneapolis, Breonna Taylor in Louisville, Tony McDade in Tallahassee, and other Black Americans at the hands of the police. We stand in solidarity with Black Lives Matter and will unite our families, friends, clients, colleagues, and community as we work to end white supremacy in all its forms.

We commit to examining our policies and practices to ensure that our organization is not a safe harbor for the roots of systemic racism. We additionally commit to working with our community partners and agencies to actively engage in antiracism as we advocate to protect the rights of Alaskans with disabilities. Racial justice is disability justice.

The Disability Law Center also stands in support of the protests that are raising national awareness of not only the callous deaths of Black people by the police, but the health, economic, and social disparities that are firmly grounded in the institutional racism that pervades the United States. The First Amendment to the Constitution protects such protests, guaranteeing "the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition

"He who passively accepts evil is as much involved in it as he who helps to perpetrate it. He who accepts evil without protesting against it is really cooperating with it."

Martin Luther King, Jr.

the Government for a redress of grievances." Protests are a tool often used successfully by the disability community to protect and enhance their rights. Any effort to restrict the right of any group to assemble, or to militarize government's response to a protest, should be vigorously resisted by all.

As an organization, a community, and a nation, we must do better.