100

BLACK MEN OF AMERICA, INC.

What They See Is What They'll Be®

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A LETTER TO OUR NATION'S CONSCIOUSNESS

100 Black Men of America, Inc., rebukes the senseless killing of Tyre Nichols and we stand with his family as they mourn the loss of their beloved son. Mr. Nichols, like Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, and George Floyd, are victims, who were unarmed, of perpetuated violence committed by uniformed police officers, who have sworn to protect and serve our communities. Regardless of who commits the senseless killings, police officer or not, the devaluation of a Black life, and in this case of a Black Man, cannot be ignored. However, when police officers, through the use of force beyond excessive, devalue the life of the very community they are sworn to serve and protect, our nation must take note and act.

100 Black Men of America, Inc. denounces the acts of these five officers and others and supports those states that have enacted smart policing legislative reforms. We also applaud the swift action by local officials in seeking justice—transparently thus far—for Mr. Nichols and his family.

Therefore, 100 Black Men of America, Inc. will double its efforts to strengthen our partnership with the National Association of Black Law Enforcement Officers, Inc. (NOBLE) to support smart policing legislation in the very communities our members serve throughout the nation. We are clear that all officers are not bad officers. We are equally clear that protecting bad officers and continuing bad, if not deadly, policies must not be tolerated.

As an organization of Black Men, we cannot and will not sit idle and continue to watch the senseless killings of the very young men we serve, uplift, and encourage to live out their potential and promise. Therefore, I call on all people of good will to join us in our efforts to improve the social, educational, health, and economic conditions of our communities by insisting on policing reforms wherever you live.

Thomas W. Dortch, Jr.

Chairman