

Police Brutality and Violence Resolution

Whereas, police killings (shootings, choking, other examples of excessive force) are the sixth-leading cause of death among men of all races ages 25-29 according to a study published by the National Academy of the Sciences; and such studies have shown that Black people are three times more likely to be killed by police in the United States than white people, even when unarmed;

Whereas, the recent, highly publicized killings of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and countless others have resulted in a significant surge of protests and demands for police and justice reforms, as well as the need to address the underlying conditions and causes for the outrage;

Whereas, these are not new issues, given a long history of conditions, disparities, and discriminations that are leading to a sense of urgency in seeking accountability, justice, and systematic changes; and

Whereas, the underlying conditions that need to be addressed include: police excessive use of force; structural violence; systemic racism, social determinants; urban violence in minority communities, and the lack of police accountability, which are all factors that contribute to a wide range of resultant public health issues; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we as pharmacists, stewards of the public's health, safety, and well-being are committed to addressing these issues, including police brutality and police violence and the related underlying conditions of racism, discrimination, and disparities with the goal of reducing and eliminating, where possible, the negative impact and consequences of this public health crisis.