

North Carolina Mayors' Statement on the Murder of George Floyd

As mayors of cities in North Carolina, we have come together to express our abhorrence of the horrific murder of George Floyd, an act of unspeakable violence, cold inhumanity and racism. The photographic evidence of this act speaks for itself. Mr. Floyd was suffocated to death by a Minneapolis police officer while pleading for his life as three other officers knelt or stood by and did nothing to help him, even as he called out, "I can't breathe." As a society, we cannot tolerate this kind of police violence rooted in systemic racism. As mayors, we work closely with the police leadership in our cities, and we know that they also will not tolerate this kind of police violence and racism within their forces. Such acts not only harm innocent people, but they also deeply erode trust in our police forces, despite the good work of so many officers every day—officers who themselves abhor the racism and violence so evident in the death of George Floyd. Our hearts go out to Mr. Floyd and his family. We support Mayor Jacob Frey of Minneapolis in his call for justice and accountability. We expect a full and fair trial of the police officers involved. We also support the rights of those who are peacefully protesting and honoring the memory of George Floyd and countless others that have been victims of systemic racism and police violence. Let's work together to ensure that protests remain peaceful and stay focused on building equitable and just cities for all in North Carolina. And we pledge to make every effort within our power to fight systemic racism within our police forces, cities and this nation.

Mayor Steve Schewel, Durham
Mayor Mary Ann Baldwin, Raleigh
Mayor Vi Lyles, Charlotte
Mayor Nancy Vaughan, Greensboro
Mayor Allen Joines, Winston-Salem
Mayor Mitch Colvin, Fayetteville
Mayor Esther Manheimer, Asheville
Mayor Bill Saffo, Wilmington
Mayor Ian Baltutis, Burlington
Mayor Pam Hemminger, Chapel Hill
Mayor Lydia Lavelle, Carrboro
Mayor Jenn Weaver, Hillsborough
Mayor Dontario Hardy, Kinston
Mayor TJ Cawley, Morrisville
Mayor Karen Alexander, Salisbury
Mayor Bill Dusch, Concord
Mayor Miles Atkins, Mooresville
Mayor Harold Weinbrecht, Cary
Mayor John Byrne, Fuquay-Varina
Mayor Costi Kutteh, Statesville
Mayor Bob Scott, Franklin

Mayor Chuck Allen, Goldsboro
Mayor Carlton Stevens, Wilson
Mayor Walker Reid, Gastonia
Mayor Hank Guess, Hickory
Mayor Jay Wagner, High Point
Mayor Sandy Roberson, Rocky Mount
Mayor Jay Donecker, Reidsville
Mayor Rennie Brantz, Boone
Mayor John Higdon, Matthews
Mayor Harry Baughn, Hayesville
Mayor Terry Mann, Whiteville
Mayor Jackie Sergeant, Oxford
Mayor Patrick Taylor, Highlands
Mayor Mary Hughes O'Brien, Star
Mayor Walt Eccard, Shallotte
Mayor Fred Yates, Winfall
Mayor Winfred Hill Murphy, Garland
Mayor Darrell Hinnant, Kannapolis
Mayor Jerry Medlin, Benson
Mayor Lynda Sossamon, Sylva
Mayor Gloristine Brown, Bethel
Mayor Weyling White, Ahoskie
Mayor Robert Johnson, North Wilkesboro
Mayor Ed Hatley, Lincolnton
Mayor Gary McClure, Rutherford College
Mayor Ben Cahoon, Nags Head
Mayor Brenda Lyerly, Banner Elk
Mayor Bobby Kilgore, Monroe
Mayor Zeb Smathers, Canton
Mayor Steve Little, Marion
Mayor Bobby Wheeler, Creedmoor
Mayor Ronnie Michael, Albemarle
Mayor Jody L. McLeod, Clayton
Mayor Joyce Whichard-Brown, Williamston
Mayor Tina Brown, Robersonville
Mayor Bettie Parker, Elizabeth City
Mayor Don Kington, Duck
Mayor Casey Dover, Stem
Mayor Johnny Berry, Connelly Springs
Mayor Terry Turner, Butner
Mayor Brenda Bozeman, Leland
Mayor Ronnie Currin, Rolesville
Mayor Coley Hunt Rhodes, Stantonsburg
Mayor Newell Clark, Lexington
Mayor Bob Matheny, Zebulon
Mayor James Roberson, Knightdale
Mayor Ken Marshburn, Garner
Mayor Vivian Jones, Wake Forest
Mayor Virginia Gray, Wendell
Mayor Lenny Williams, Gibsonville
Mayor Ed Hooks, Mebane
Mayor David Smith, Asheboro
Mayor Jerry Peterman, Graham
Mayor Tracy Rodes, Webster
Mayor Barbara Mallett, East Spencer
Mayor G. Scott Neisler, Kings Mountain

Mayor Victor Varela, Ronda
Mayor Kelly Allen, Haw River
Mayor Dana Outlaw, New Bern
Mayor Chet Mann, Sanford
Mayor PJ Connelly, Greenville
Mayor Steve Sciascia, Harrisburg
Mayor Raleigh York, Thomasville
Mayor Bryan Hough, Mount Holly
Mayor M. Andy Moore, Smithfield
Mayor Vershumn Hawkins, Plymouth
Mayor Ed Henderson, Red Springs
Mayor Wendell Hildebrand, Hildebran
Mayor Tom Hartman, West Jefferson
Mayor Charley Farrior, Wallace
Mayor Steve Smith, Topsail Beach
Mayor Howard Morgan, Sedalia
Mayor J. Carey O'Cain, Laurel Park
Mayor Ricky Credle, Belhaven
Mayor James Willis, Laurinburg
Mayor Larry Ward, Denton
Mayor Eulis Willis, Navassa
Mayor Donna Long, Calabash
Mayor Jack Warren, King
Mayor Milton W. Farmer, Wagram
Mayor Earnell Brown, Hertford
Mayor Billy Hammond, Fair Bluff
Mayor Ken Thomas, Oak Island
Mayor Glenn Marshall, Sandy Creek
Mayor Joseph Warren, Salemburg
Mayor H. Goldston Womble, Jr., White Lake
Mayor Rick Coleman, Dallas
Mayor Leonard Fillyaw, Teachey
Mayor Carissa Graves Henry, Green Level
Mayor Brad Simmons, Mint Hill
Mayor Wayne Aycock, Norlina
Mayor Geraldine Langford, Seaboard
Mayor Wayne Anderson, Enfield
Mayor Hal Thomas, Murfreesboro
Mayor David Cleveland, Lake Park
Mayor David Myers Col. USMC (Ret.), Madison
Mayor Julia Meacham, Weldon
Mayor Steve Tripp, Ayden
Mayor Chae Davis, Mills River
Mayor William Flowers, Fremont
Mayor Brenda Harrell, Pinetops
Mayor Rett Newton, Beaufort
Mayor George Holleman, Taylorsville
Mayor Bobby Wooten, La Grange
Mayor Doris Weaver, Fallston
Mayor Michelle Shooter, Rowland
Mayor Jimmy Chalfinch, Carthage
Mayor Tom Bennett, Southern Shores
Mayor Shannon Phillips, Sunset Beach
Mayor Charles Vines, Bakersville
Mayor Cynthia Williams, Parkton
Mayor Jimmy Stallings, Edenton

Mayor Eddie Reynolds, Biscoe
Mayor John Grimes, Siler City
Mayor Tate Daniel, New London
Mayor Eddie Callahan, Vass
Mayor Charlie Sellers, Blowing Rock
Mr. Richard Zeck, Simpson
Mayor Sammy Phillips, Jacksonville
Mayor Al Root, Weaverville
Mayor Sherri Allgood, Troy
Mayor Art Wright, Franklinton
Mayor Antonio Blue, Dobbins Heights
Mayor Kelly Allen, Haw River
Mayor Chip Black, Valdese
Mayor Brenda Brown, Nashville
Mayor Barbara Volk, Hendersonville
Mayor Eddie Ellington, Henderson
Mayor Alvin Foster, Yanceyville
Mayor Eddie Norman, Yadkinville
Mayor David Guy, Ruth
Mayor Don Collins, Black Mountain
Mayor Jackie Warner, Hope Mills
Mayor Alice Butler, Roseboro
Mayor Richard Fennell, Whitsett
Mayor Ronnie Setzer, Cahaj's Mountain
Mayor Edward McCue, Foxfire Village
Mayor Joseph Gibbons, Lenoir
Mayor Jerry Tolley, Elon
Mayor Bobbie Jones, Princeville
Mayor Bob Floyd, Cedar Rock
Mayor Jim Wallace, Forest Hills
Mayor Will Lewis, Havelock
Mayor Kathy Stanley-Galvan, Stoneville
Mayor Tim Ward, Love Valley
Mayor Rusty Knox, Davidson
Mayor Robert Barnhill, St. Helena
Mayor of Norwood Harold Thompson, Norwood
Mayor Michelle Sledge, Hassell
Ms. Janet Parrott, Stovall
Mayor Eddie Braxton, Scotland Neck
Mayor Larry Ward, Denton
Mayor John Kirkland, River Bend
Mayor Larry B Smith Jr., Marshville
Mayor Deborah Ahlers, Caswell Beach
Mayor Ronnie Thompson, Morganton
Mayor John Byrum, Midway
Mayor Ricky Credle, Belhaven
Mayor Evan Cockerham, Pilot Mountain
Mayor Ben Sproul, Kill Devil Hills
Mayor Paul G. Davis, Maxton

June 8, 2020