

Saint Paul Human Rights and Equal Economic Opportunity Commission
Police Accountability And Community Healing

WHEREAS on July 6, 2016, Philando Castile was fatally shot four times by a St. Anthony police officer in Minnesota during a traffic stop;

WHEREAS Philando Castile was a much-loved member of the St. Paul community;

WHEREAS the shooting is another in a long line of police shootings and use of excessive force against black men and women, both locally and nationally;

WHEREAS the recent events throughout the United States and here at home in Minnesota regarding the use of deadly force by police officers have eroded the public trust in law enforcement in the communities they are entrusted to protect and serve;

WHEREAS the Saint Paul Human Rights and Equal Economic Opportunity Commission views that it is the right of every resident to be treated fairly and equally by law enforcement regardless of race and believes that St. Paul should be a leader in promoting unbiased and responsible policing policies;

WHEREAS it is vital that law enforcement and governmental leaders operate swiftly and transparently during this time of profound widespread distrust in law enforcement;

WHEREAS the use of body-worn cameras increase transparency, improve behavior and civility among law enforcement officers and residents, and provide evidentiary benefits to resolve complaints against law enforcement officers, more is needed to restore the public trust between the community and law enforcement;

WHEREAS black lives do matter.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

The Saint Paul Human Rights and Equal Economic Opportunity Commission calls for:

1. The appointment Special Prosecutor to determine whether there is sufficient evidence to prosecute Jeronimo Yanez;
2. The BCA and the Ramsey County Attorney to immediately make available to the public the dash camera video(s);
3. The State to mandate 15 hours of in-person training in implicit; unconscious, and structural bias for all police officers in Minnesota and annual continuing education on that subject;

4. The State to mandate in-person training in 21st century policing de-escalation techniques for all police officers in Minnesota and annual continuing education on that subject;
5. The immediate implementation of the recommendations made by the University of Minnesota Center for Restorative Justice and Peacekeeping in its audit of the Saint Paul Police Civilian Internal Affairs Review Commission;
6. The City of St. Paul and State of Minnesota will allocate funds to address community trauma and healing in an impactful way;
7. The support and establishment of a statewide oversight and investigation on the use of excessive force by law enforcement;
8. The collection and annual publication of statistical data regarding low level crimes.
9. The collection and annual publication of statistical data regarding incidents where police officer(s) discharge weapons and/or civilians are injured in encounters with police officers.