WA-BLOC mourns with the families of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Shaun Fuhr, Charleena Lyles, Manuel Ellis, Tommy Le and countless others whose lives were cut short by Police Murder before they were charged with any crime or had their day in court. These killings are racist, completely wrong, inexcusable, and also as American as apple pie.

Since its founding, this country has been built on the abuse and exploitation of Black people. Police murders expose how far America is from truly being a land of liberty or justice. It’s 2020 and we are still fighting for many of the same things our ancestors fought for.

Whether you’re watching the news or scrolling on social media - there is an energy in the air that is screaming for radical change! We acknowledge all the dope, grassroots organizations in Seattle, across the country, and around the world. We stand in solidarity with all who are putting in work for justice and demanding a future without police violence.

Last week much of the country was shook by seeing the 3rd Precinct in Minneapolis on fire. Here at WA-BLOC, we support a diversity of tactics. If non-violent protests alone were going to solve this problem, it would have been solved long ago. We support investment in community safety that comes from non-police/non-arrest strategies.

WA-BLOC supports Seattle Public Schools ending its contract with Seattle Police Department. Cops should not be in schools. School Emphasis Officers negatively affect Black and Brown communities and function as part of the School To Prison Pipeline.

WA-BLOC supports the urgent defunding and demilitarization of Police. Last year, Mayor Durkan approved a budget of over $400 million for SPD. Those dollars should have been invested in restorative justice, healthcare (including mental and emotional health), and housing programs.

WA-BLOC supports the indictment and conviction of Officer Noah Zeck for the brutal murder of Shaun Fuhr. Shaun was running away with nowhere to go, holding his one-year-old baby girl in his arms. When he began to turn around, Noah Zeck brutally executed him with a shot to the front of the head using an AR-15, just 15 feet away. Noah Zeck is currently on administrative leave but we believe justice needs to be served and Officer Zeck should do the time for taking Shaun’s life.

Last but not least, we denounce Seattle Police Officers Guild (SPOG). This is the organization that fights to reinstate killer cops and works to diminish or undermine all efforts toward police accountability. The lack of respect for Black life displayed by SPOG impacts the Black community like the alt-right or ku klux klan. We call on white people who understand to get your people and organize to change or cancel or SPOG.

-WA-BLOC Team