

KENT COUNTY

Wayman P. Britt, County Administrator/Controller



Statement on George Floyd Death from Kent County Administrator/Controller Wayman P. Britt

The news of George Floyd's death in Minneapolis on Monday evening and the disturbing video of his final moments were shocking. The actions of the Minneapolis police officers were deplorable, and the officers involved should be held accountable for their actions and inactions.

This incident sheds even more light on the disparities faced by many people of color. As an African American who grew up in the Jim Crow South and later in Flint, Michigan, I personally understand these inequalities and share the anger, pain, and frustration over the senseless loss of George Floyd's life.

I also support the rights of those who are peacefully protesting and honoring the memory of George Floyd and the countless others that have been victims of systemic racism and prejudice. It is incumbent upon all of us to work together to ensure these protests remain peaceful so we can address these systemic issues. While we cannot change the social injustices of the past, this is our moment to come together, put aside our differences and biases, and build a racist free society.

We must peacefully work together to ensure that the memory of George Floyd's life is honored with respect and dignity, and that Mr. Floyd's family receive the justice they deserve. My sincere condolences go out to the Floyd family.