AAHRPP Statement on Recent Events

Like every human being around the world with a beating heart and a moral compass, we at AAHRPP were horrified and outraged by the recent cold-blooded murders of George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, and Breonna Taylor. Our anger and pain has been further stoked by the violent attempts of those at the highest levels of power to quash the legitimate exercise by Americans of their First Amendment right to peaceably assemble to express their beliefs and protest the systemic racism that continues to exist as a stain on the American experience for our brothers and sisters of color. These killings and the events that have followed have laid bare the immense challenges we face as a society because of ongoing systemic racism, particularly in regard to the breach of common ethical norms regarding how those in power should treat those with little or no power.

It is AAHRPP’s mission to defend and protect the safety and welfare of human beings. Painful moments like this across our country are a reminder of the importance of our work, as our mission is to protect all people and promote human dignity and ethical behavior. It will take all of us listening to and learning from our good-hearted fellow citizens and wise colleagues and working together to turn empathy and sympathy into righteous action. We are privileged to work in a field where our endeavors contribute to the advancement of our shared humanity. Even as our hearts are breaking right alongside those who are directly affected, we pledge that, in our words and in our deeds, AAHRPP will remain tireless in our dedication to uphold the time-tested principles of respect and beneficence, the values that will ultimately determine the fate of our future and soul of our nation.