



Dear MC Law Family,

As law students across the nation celebrate the end of another academic year and their hard-earned accomplishments, we have become publicly aware of those experiencing the tough reality of racially motivated violence. Once again, the unresolved racial injustice has been highlighted by the recent deaths of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, George Floyd, and countless others. The cycle of hashtags and outrage continues. This has caused feelings of sadness, frustration, hopelessness, and anger throughout our nation and in our communities.

Words cannot reconcile these emotions, but at the same time, we do not feel it is right or just to remain silent. Silence is complicity and acceptance. We feel it is important that actions are taken by our: Legislators, Government Officials, families, friends and peers, to attest publicly that all human lives have value. As a nation we must stand in solidarity against injustice, racism, and violence at all times, but especially when our members and families are suffering. We constantly witness countless black lives being taken by police officers who are supposed to “serve and protect” us.

BLSA is a model of inclusivity and equality. Our organization stands to be a representation for other organizations who aspire to reject injustice, discrimination, and violence. It is our responsibility to advocate for justice and equality. This profession calls for fairness from all members of the legal profession. It is up to us to support those whom the justice system is failing by advocating for the people – all people.

Black Lives Matter does not mean that Black lives are superior to others. It means that we want to be treated with dignity and respect that is owed to every American citizen. This is not to take away from All Lives Matter, but simply for us to be included in All Lives.

We must acknowledge and respond to the negative effects that injustice, racism, and violence have on our organization, on our members, on our families, and on society as a whole. In BLSA, we aspire to articulate and promote the needs and goals of Black law students to effectuate change in the legal community. We must find ways to enact these values at this critical time. As law students, we will soon be joining the justice system. We prepare our members to shape the justice system for the better and represent positive voices, by encouraging them to be the proactive change they wish to see.

We hope others seek guidance from our words and our call to action.

Respectfully,
R. Jess Brown Chapter of BLSA
at Mississippi College School of Law