

STUDENT SENATE BILL 2020-1057

TITLE: Resolution Recognizing That Black Lives Matter

AUTHOR(S): Senator Marcus Nelson

SPONSOR(S): Black Student Union Community Affairs

WHEREAS, on March 2, 2010, UF graduate student Kofi Adu-Brempong was shot in his Gainesville apartment by UF Police [1]; and,

WHEREAS, on February 26, 2012, Trayvon Martin was shot and killed in Sanford, FL [2]; and,

WHEREAS, on July 17, 2014, Eric Garner died in New York, NY after police held him in a prohibited chokehold for several minutes [3]; and,

WHEREAS, on August 9, 2014, Michael Brown was shot and killed in Ferguson, MO by police [4]; and,

WHEREAS, on February 23, 2020, Ahmaud Arbery was shot and killed in Brunswick, GA [5]; and,

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, Breonna Taylor was shot and killed in Louisville, KY by undercover police [6]; and,

WHEREAS, on May 25, 2020, George Floyd died in Minneapolis, MN after a police officer knelt on his neck for over nine minutes [7]; and,

WHEREAS, on August 23, 2020, Jacob Blake was shot by police in Kenosha, WI [8]; and

WHEREAS, on June 5, 2020, the Black Student Union created a petition with a list of demands for improving race relations at the University of Florida [9]; and,

WHEREAS, UF students and student-athletes have marched in protest of police brutality [10]; and,

WHEREAS, numerous protests and demonstrations have occurred in 2020 for the deaths of people of color at the hands of law enforcement and other individuals; then,

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate stands in solidarity with the black community.

THEREFORE, LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate will do whatever is within its power to protect black lives inside and outside the University of Florida.

THEREFORE, LET IT FINALLY BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate fully and clearly recognizes that Black Lives Matter.

Proviso: A copy of this resolution shall be sent to University of Florida President W. Kent Fuchs, Provost Joseph Glover, Dean of Students Heather White, Vice President of Student Affairs D'Andra Mull, Director of Black Affairs Carl Simien, Student Body President Trevor Pope, and Black Student Union President Symphany Lindsay.

[1] https://www.alligator.org/news/article_9ba4653a-ca28-11ea-9405-affb6b384085.html

[2] <https://www.cnn.com/2013/06/05/us/trayvon-martin-shooting-fast-facts/index.html>

[3] <https://www.nytimes.com/2015/06/14/nyregion/eric-garner-police-chokehold-staten-island.html>

[4] <https://apnews.com/9aa32033692547699a3b61da8fd1fc62>

[5] <https://www.nytimes.com/article/ahmaud-arbery-shooting-georgia.html>

[6] <https://www.nytimes.com/article/breonna-taylor-police.html>

[7] <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/05/31/us/george-floyd-investigation.html>

[8] <https://www.wsj.com/articles/jacob-blake-shooting-what-happened-in-kenosha-wisconsin-11598368824>

[9] <http://chng.it/hbBCF4gTzy>

[10] https://www.alligator.org/news/article_b90830ca-e99f-11ea-94d1-2301b4261326.html