

JCPA's Advocacy on Equity and Civil Rights Since George Floyd's Murder

In the aftermath of the grievous killing of George Floyd, JCPA and the JCRC network are standing with the Black and other diverse communities to advocate for equity and ending systemic racism in America. Today, we are at an important historical moment that calls upon the Jewish community to join us in these efforts. Below are actions JCPA has taken so far and those we are currently developing.

Highlights:

Immediate Public Education and Response

- JCPA condemned the killing of George Floyd. JCPA wrote a statement expressing solidarity to the Black community pledging support to end systemic racism in our law enforcement system signed by more than 130 Jewish organizations. Click [here](#) to view.
- JCPA is in discussion with the NAACP on create an MOU to strengthen our grassroots network and align our policy agendas.
- JCPA placed an op-ed in the Forward “My Fellow Jews: Get in the Fight”, written by Melanie Roth Gorelick, JCPA Senior Vice President. Click [here](#) to view.
- JCPA shared with our full mailing list a compilation of JCRC statements. Click [here](#) to view. As well as an op-ed written by the JCRC Association officers. Click [here](#) to view.

Federal Advocacy on Policing and Civil Rights

- JCPA actively participates in a Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights' Justice Task Force. The Task Force put together eight priority measures for federal police reform. JCPA signed onto a national letter with 440 other civil rights organizations. JCPA also worked with the Leadership Conference to successfully improve the House's Justice in Policing Act and to defeat the Senate's Justice Act. Click [here](#) to view the letter.
- In preparation for June 10 Congressional hearings on police reform in America, JCPA sent out an action alert to our full mailing list urging support for the eight priority measures. Almost 850 people filled out our action alert in just over 24 hours, which is the most we've seen on any action alert in such a short timeframe since our 2018 petition on

cuts to Medicare. Supporters have so far sent over 2,400 messages to Congress. Click [here](#) to view.

- JCPA submitted a Statement for the Record to the House Judiciary Committee’s June 10 Oversight Hearing on Policing Practices and Law Enforcement Accountability regarding the eight recommendations. The Committee introduced a new package of reforms that include most of these recommendations but there were improvements that we worked with partners to secure. Click [here](#) to view.
- As a leader in the WISC interfaith coalition, JCPA signed on to a faith letter sent to Congress supporting police reform and racial equality. Click [here](#) to view.
- JCPA’s Policy Advisory Committee met to discuss next steps on policy and advocacy raised during this new civil rights area. The Committee decided that a Delegates Assembly meeting needed to be called to educate our members on the issues, which we did on July 8. See below for more information.

Convening the National Network

- JCPA convened the Delegates Assembly for an Educational Session on Policing with experts and practitioners. Over 160 people participated from over 70 communities. Click [here](#) for the agenda and speakers. Click below to watch the sessions.
 - [Ending Systemic Racism in Policing](#)
 - [Understanding Policing and Where We Go From Here](#)
 - [Redefining Public Safety: What Communities Need to Succeed](#)
- JCPA convened the Washington Reps—representatives of national organizations working in Washington—on June 25 to discuss the current state of affairs and the role of the Jewish community. JCPA will hold the next meeting in mid- to late-July.

Educating and Mobilizing the JCRC Network

- JCPA is hosting a webinar series on policing and Black Lives Matter to educate the field on reform efforts. Click below for the recordings.
 - [Ending Racism in America: A Discussion with Derrick Johnson, President and CEO of the NAACP](#)
 - [Black Lives Matter and the Jewish Community: A Discussion with Eric Ward and Carly Pildis](#)
 - Unpacking the Discourse on Policing and Public Safety. Recording coming soon.

- Black Lives Matter: A Conversation on Being Black and Jewish at this Moment. [Register here.](#)
- JCPA provided an interactive opportunity for JCRC professionals to discuss strategies for responding to current events.
- JCPA prepared and distributed Guidelines for JCRC Work on Civil rights. Click [here](#) to view.
- JCPA wrote and distributed a survey on JCRC engagement on Black-Jewish relations, equity and civil rights issues, and criminal justice reform to get baseline information on where the field is today, best practices, challenges, and how we can be helpful. Click [here](#) to view.
- JCPA has launched a JCRC cohort made up of 25 JCRCs addressing criminal justice and other civil rights concerns. The first meeting was on June 22.
- JCPA endorsed [an unbranded, open letter](#) from 500+ Jewish communal organizations supporting the Black Lives Matter movement and rejecting racist and antisemitic conspiracy theories. JCPA circulated the letter, which 23 JCRCs were able to join.
- JCPA compiled resources on racial justice and racism for JCRCs across the country. Click [here](#) to view.
- JCPA developed educational resources on policing. Click here for [Resources for Understanding Police Reform 101](#). Click here for [Priority Principles for Federal Legislation on Policing](#).