

May 29, 2020

To the University Community,

I am appalled by the facts coming out of Minneapolis. No one deserves what happened to George Floyd.

On behalf of the Frostburg State University Police I want to express that what happened in Minneapolis to George Floyd is horrendous and wholly unjustifiable. There can be no mitigating factors that would provide justification. The officers' actions are not consistent with the training and protocols of our profession.

As law enforcement officers we must always hold ourselves to a higher standard and when those standards are not upheld, we cannot sit idly by. We will continue to work tirelessly to build and maintain trust and partnership with our community. Although the incident did not happen locally, we are well aware that it can and will damage the relationship between law enforcement and communities across the country.

I am united with law enforcement leaders across the country to confront the failures of our profession lest we repeat them and cast doubt on our legitimacy. Moreover, the actions in Minneapolis are not representative of the men and women of the Frostburg State University Police Department.

"There comes a time when silence is betrayal." – Martin Luther King Jr.

"In the end, we will remember not the words of our enemies but the silence of our friends." – Martin Luther King Jr.

Cynthia R. Smith, Chief
Frostburg State University Police