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Coastal Housing*

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Alternatives*

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*Ernesto Fonseca -
Hacienda CDC*

*Nkenge Harmon
Johnson – Urban
League of Portland*

*Sean Hubert-
Central City
Concern*

*Richard Morrow –
Columbia Cascade
Housing Corp.*

*Arielle Reid –
NeighborWorks
Umpqua*

*Lisa Rogers –
CASA of Oregon*

June 23, 2020

Co-Chairs Courtney and Kotek
Joint Interim Committee on the First Special Session of 2020
Oregon Legislature
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Co-Chairs Courtney, Kotek, and members of the Committee:

I am speaking today on behalf of Housing Oregon to share their support for the Coalition of Communities of Color and Portland African American Leadership Forum on police accountability. The Housing Oregon board of directors voted in support of their calls to action at their June meeting.

Housing Oregon is a membership-based statewide association of 50 affordable housing Community Development Corporations (CDCs) committed to serving and supporting low-income Oregonians across the housing needs spectrum – from homeless to homeowner. We are working towards a day when every Oregonian has a safe and healthy place to call home.

Our member organizations recognize there are widespread inequities Black, Indigenous and People of Color face accessing quality health care, education, affordable and safe housing, building generational wealth, and interactions with the criminal justice system.

Housing justice and racial justice in the criminal justice system are inextricably linked. Black people are disproportionately harmed by both as a result of decades of discrimination and racist policies.

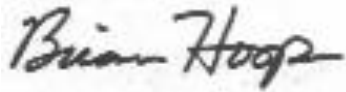
We support these organizations' calls to:

- Work to remove any policies on our existing jurisdictions' books similar to those in Minneapolis, which may permit the use of the procedure used to kill George Floyd;
- seek to facilitate and codify change in Oregon State Statutes, as appropriate, for use of deadly force by officers;

- work to have jurisdictions commit to training/retraining all law enforcement officers on proper use of force decision making matrices;
- work to have jurisdictions commit to explicit, comprehensive Diversity, Equity, Inclusion training for all law enforcement officers, as well as heightened de-escalation training;
- work to seek and acquire a commitment from all police unions, governmental leaders and officers in Oregon to condemn illegal or immoral behavior from police officers.

Thank you very much for your time and for your service to our state. Please feel free to contact me at brian@housingoregon.org or 503-475-6056.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brian Hoop". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Brian Hoop
Executive Director
Housing Oregon