

THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT HAS BEEN ISSUED BY THE PITTSBURGH COMMUNITY TASK FORCE ON POLICE REFORM ON AUGUST 17, 2020:

The Pittsburgh Community Task Force on Police Reform strongly condemns the actions of a non-uniformed group of Pittsburgh police officers at the corner of Forbes Ave. and S. Bouquet St. on August 15. We have heard from countless members of our community, including law enforcement officers and those exercising their First Amendment rights to protest, who are desperate for these policing tactics to change, and to change now. As we continue our work as a Task Force, we pledge to address such police tactics in our final report, and we call on Mayor Peduto, Public Safety Director Hissrich, and Chief Schubert to immediately address this incident and provide full transparency to the community. We also call on the Pittsburgh Bureau of Police and protest leaders to work together to ensure the safety of everyone involved.

Signed,

Tony Beltran, President & CEO Pittsburgh Mercy

Dr. Quintin Bullock, President Community College of Allegheny County

Alexander Cash, Community Advocate

Sylvia Fields, Executive Director Eden Hall Foundation

Brandi Fisher, President & CEO Alliance for Police and Accountability

Richard Garland, Assistant Professor University of Pittsburgh School of Public Health

Dr. Bobbi Watt Geer, President & CEO United Way of Southwestern Pennsylvania

David Harris, Professor University of Pittsburgh School of Law

Amanda Green Hawkins, Lawyer at United Steelworkers

Patricia Leftwich, Community Advocate & Biomedical Researcher

Camille Redman, Community Advocate

Dr. Angela Reynolds, CEO YWCA of Greater Pittsburgh

Valerie McDonald Roberts, Former Chief of the Bureau of Neighborhood Empowerment

Monica Ruiz, Executive Director Casa San Jose

Tim Stevens, Chairman & CEO The Black Political Empowerment Project

Rabbi Ron Symons, Director Center for Loving Kindness, Jewish Community Center

Sharon Werner, Chief Counsel PNC Ban

Nathaniel Yap, Community Advocate