

On Mon, Jun 1, 2020 at 6:13 PM Philip DiStefano <[Phil.DiStefano@colorado.edu](mailto:Phil.DiStefano@colorado.edu)> wrote:

Dear Ruth & Olivia:

I am responding to you on behalf of President Kennedy and the University of Colorado Board of Regents. On their behalf, let me thank you for your letter, offered at a time of extraordinary grief for you personally, for our communities of color, for our nation and certainly for our campus community.

Please allow me to say that the killing of George Floyd is an affront to justice, equality and inclusion that I have worked to advance throughout my career. Further, such blatant injustice does not represent the values of our campus community.

And yet, I know from the many conversations I have had with communities of color—conversations which clearly expressed long memories of racism, unequal treatment, violence and marginalization from law enforcement and indeed, government at all levels all across the country—that we are at a point in which values need to rise to action now.

I am committed to rise to action as an individual and lead our campus community to make real the promised of freedom, equality and justice. I will continue to address the BSA, allied student groups and other members of the campus community on these issues over the summer.

With gratitude and determination,

Phil DiStefano  
Chancellor  
University of Colorado Boulder