

CW: Police Brutality, Anti-Blackness, Racism

To the Members of Stanford Applied Cyber and the general Stanford Community:

We, the Stanford Applied Cybersecurity Board, stand in solidarity with the Black community and the Black Lives Matter movement. George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Seanna Reed, Ahmaud Arbery, and Tony McDade are just a handful of those who were murdered at the hands of police brutality and the systemic racial injustice that has festered in this country for centuries. We affirm that we do not and will never stand by such blatant moral depravity perpetuated by hateful people and the institutions that enable them to act on their hateful beliefs. Black Lives have always mattered and will always matter.

Some of our readers may wonder why we felt it necessary to release a statement regarding these current events. After all, we are a club focused on teaching and investigating the field of computer security. However, no matter what our club focus is, we are more than just security professionals, hobbyists, and enthusiasts: we are **people**. We are roommates, neighbors, friends, and classmates, and as such, we have a responsibility to stand up and join the members of our community as they fight against injustice. We cannot rightfully call ourselves a club, or any organization of people, if we do not stand up for **all** of our members, especially our black members. Furthermore, our club mission also aims to promote and empower diversity and representation within the field of Computer Security especially through initiatives like our internal community of WAC (Women in Applied Cybersecurity). As a club which embodies this mission, we have a responsibility to reflect on our current efforts and dedicate ourselves to further innovating and finding new ways to support this movement.

To all who read this: We cannot pretend to know or understand your story or how recent events have affected you, but we want you to know that we stand firmly by your side through all of that has happened, all that is happening, and all that will happen. We stand with the Black Lives Matter movement.

Our actions regarding this movement will not stop with this email. Please please *please* read [this document](https://bit.ly/3eNcJkp) (https://bit.ly/3eNcJkp) full of great resources, ranging from places to donate to protest resources to educational resources to help allies understand the movement better. If you have the bandwidth, please **take action** on this issue, and you can start by referencing the guide we linked above. On that note, we would also like to assure our club members we are here for them. Please know that if any of you have questions or ideas regarding how Applied Cybersecurity can better come forth and support you and this movement, we are open to all ideas. And, of course, if any of you would like someone to talk to or even just a glimpse of a friendly face, we are here. And we will always be here for you.

In solidarity,
Stanford Applied Cybersecurity
Board '19-'20 and '20-'21