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ELC Stands in Solidarity Against Systemic Racism and Police Brutality

Our nation is in crisis. We at the Education Law Center stand in solidarity with Black communities and other communities of color in challenging systemic racism and police brutality.

We are sickened by the recent murders of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Tony McDade, Ahmaud Arbery – and the persistent, heartless killings of Black people. The dehumanization of people of color in this country is not new but underscored both by recent events of police brutality and by the overwhelmingly disparate racial impact of the pandemic. The callous indifference of many in the power structure has never been more glaring. We know these are longstanding and profound racial injustices, deeply engrained in U.S. society – injustices that have persisted in our communities and our public institutions, including our schools.

ELC rededicates itself to naming and challenging these inequities, using legal and advocacy tools as effectively as we can to dismantle racial injustice and advance educational equity. The inequities in our schools are deeply entrenched and are core elements of systemic racism. We reaffirm our commitment to work with organizations and communities of color to eliminate racism and amplify their voices. We are determined to finally make our schools places where children of color are not only safe, but respected, supported, and able to thrive.

The Education Law Center-PA (ELC) is a nonprofit, legal advocacy organization with offices in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, dedicated to ensuring that all children in Pennsylvania have access to a quality public education. Through legal representation, impact litigation, community engagement, and policy advocacy, ELC advances the rights of underserved children, including children living in poverty, children of color, children in the foster care and juvenile justice systems, children with disabilities, English learners, LGBTQ students, and children experiencing homelessness.