

To City of Rochester's:  
Interim Police Chief Cynthia Herriott-Sullivan,  
Mayor Lovely A. Warren,  
City Council President Loretta C. Scott,

For the second time in six months, regrettably, the eyes of the nation are on Rochester for all the wrong reasons. At the end of the released body camera footage of the handcuffing, pepper spraying, and overall egregious treatment of a nine-year-old girl by a large group of RPD officers, one of the participants exclaims, "unbelievable!"

As leaders and members of various religious communities in Rochester and beyond, we stand together with those who are the targets of injustice. We strongly urge you, the leaders elected and appointed to serve the citizens of this community, to do the same.

In addition to making the public apologies and reparations necessary to begin the recovery and healing of the little girl, we ask you as our city's stewards to attend to these three priorities:

1. *Complete with expedient transparency regarding the full extent of the abuse in this incident, including releasing any additional redacted body camera footage for public accountability.*
2. *Commit to increasing funding and support to the emerging Crisis Intervention Services team.*
3. *Fully cooperate with and support the Rochester Police Accountability Board in its investigation of this matter, and in procuring the funding necessary to hire adequate staff, independent counsel, and other resources to fulfill its legally and electorally mandated duties.*

The eye of the nation is on Rochester; so are the eyes, hearts, and prayers of the many and diverse religious communities of our city. We appreciate the steps taken already and look forward to hearing your timeline for taking further concrete steps towards pursuing these priorities. Finally, we wish to offer our support and our collective resources in helping to continue the reparation and rebuilding of broken community trust.

Rochester can and should do better than this. We can become a community where human dignity forms the bedrock of our actions, and where transparency and accountability of policing can help uphold this commitment.

Sincerely,

1. Rt. Rev. Dr. Prince Grenville Singh, Bishop, Episcopal Diocese of Rochester
2. The Rt. Rev. Dr. DeDe Duncan-Probe, Bishop of Central New York, Acting President, Province II of The Episcopal Church
3. Muhammad Shafiq, Ph.D., Executive Director Hickey Center for Interfaith Studies and Dialogue & IIIT Interfaith Studies Chair, Nazareth College
4. Rabbi Debbi Till, Temple Sinai
5. Angela D. Sims, Ph.D., President, Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School
6. Dr. Natasha Sodhi, Gurdwara of Rochester (Sikh Faith)

7. Mira J. Washington, Church Women United, Inc., National President
8. Keith S. Greer, L.C.S.W., President - Temple Sinai
9. The Rev. Canon Dr. C. Denise Yarbrough, Interfaith Chapel, University of Rochester
10. The Reverend Canon Johnnie E. Ross
11. Deacon Georgia M Carney
12. The Rev. Troy Preston, Rector, Christ Episcopal Church, Corning, New York
13. The Rev. Jay Burkardt, Assistant Rector, St. Paul's Rochester
14. The Rev. Carol W. Stewart, St. John's Episcopal Church, Wellsville, NY Episcopal Diocese of Rochester
15. Rev. Dr. Michael Laver, Priest, Saint John's Episcopal Church, Sodus, NY
16. The Rev. J. Eric Thompson, Rector, St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Dansville, NY
17. The. Rev. Keith Patterson
18. Rev. Donald J. Schranz, Priest-In-Charge, St. John's Episcopal Church, Clifton Springs
19. Rev. Jimmie Sue Deppe
20. Sue E. Ouellette, Deacon
21. The Rev. Greg Kremer, Pastor, St. George's Church, Hilton NY
22. The Rev. Peter W. Peters, Ph.D., retired
23. The Rev. Lesley M. Adams
24. The Rev. Philip H. Kasey
25. The Rev. Polly McWilliams Kasey
26. The Rev. Deacon Patti Blaine
27. The Very Rev. Virginia Tyler Smith
28. The Rev. Cn. Carolyn D. Lumbard
29. Rev. Dr. Stephen Cady II, Senior Minister, Asbury First United Methodist Church
30. Rev. Barbara H. Fornalik, Deacon
31. The Rev. Mitchell Bojarski, Rector, Episcopal Church of the Incarnation, Penfield, NY

32. The Rev. Daniel Pope
33. Cantor Renata Braun
34. The Very Rev'd Leslie Burkardt
35. The Rev. Elizabeth Brooks Harden, St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Brockport, New York
36. The Rev. Melanie Duguid-May, St. Thomas Episcopal Church, Bath, NY
37. The Rev. Richard D. Krapf
38. The Rev. Brooks A. Cato, Rector, St. Thomas' Episcopal Church, Hamilton
39. The Very Rev. Christine J. Day, Rector, All Saints' Church, Johnson City, NY, Diocese of CNY
40. The Rev. Mother Nancy Lane, Ph.D. Life-Professed Solitary, OSB, Episcopal Diocese of CNY
41. Rev. Naomi Sorrwar-Randall (ELCA)
42. Rev. Sandra L Cordingley
43. The Rev Christopher Luedde
44. Laurence Wainwright-Maks
45. Rabbi Avi Kilimnick
46. The Rev. Charles L. Grover
47. Dennis Wienk, retired priest, Episcopal Diocese of Rochester
48. The Rev. Michael W. Hopkins, retired
49. Very Rev. Dr. Jeffrey Haugaard, Rector, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Waterloo, New York
50. The Reverend Canon. Albert J. Keeney
51. The Rev. Louise Johnson-Toth
52. Tabassam Javed, President Islamic Center of Rochester
53. The Very Rev. Kenneth R. Pepin
54. The Rev. Elizabeth M. Groskoph
55. The Very Rev. Ruth Ferguson
56. The Rev. Canon Robert A. Picken, Rector, St. Paul's Episcopal Church
57. Rabbi Michael Silbert, Temple Beth David

58. Rabbi Alan J Katz, Rabbi Emeritus Temple Sinai
59. The Rt. Rev. John S. Macholz, Bishop of the Upstate New York Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
60. Rev. Matthew Nickoloff, South Wedge Mission
61. The Very Rev. Deborah Duguid-May, Trinity Episcopal Church, Greece, NY
62. Denise Mack, D.Min. Chair, RocACTS Religious Leader's Caucus
63. Rev. Nita C. Johnson Byrd

