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The Western Trauma Association (WTA) is based on the foundation of family and friends, collegiality, and science, which is a quest for truth. Some truths we see are: that we along with the entire world grieve over the killing of George Floyd; that the viral pandemic has had a disproportionate impact on people of color; and that multiple episodes of racial injustice have angered our country and created a powerful movement that “Black Lives Matter,” which has been embraced by people of all races. As leaders in trauma medical care, we cannot ignore or justify the structural violence and disparities that have long oppressed members of the Black and Brown communities and other underserved populations. We condemn any form of racism and prejudice, whether it is individual or systemic.

The WTA recognizes both the direct and indirect impact of such events on members of our local communities, society as a whole, and on our Association and trauma community. We believe that this is an opportunity for solidarity and a renewed commitment to care for each other and also to take action. It is our time to join with those who are experiencing injustice, and as a leading trauma society we will use our podium to elevate and amplify diverse voices. We are committed to being leaders of change for a nation free of structural violence and racial disparities. Further, we reiterate our commitment to creating an environment that promotes and supports equality, diversity, justice, and inclusion while condemning any form of racism and prejudice.