



June 4th, 2020

MPI Orange County, stands against racism. MPI Orange County stands for inclusion.

It's heartbreaking and tragic that we once again find ourselves still struggling with issues that are so core to the dignity of our fellow human beings. We embrace an inclusive business community of respect for all people regardless of national origin, race, religion, sex, gender, age, color, sexual orientation or disability. We are committed to being champions for equality as we continue this journey together.

Our chapter, and our greater meetings and events industry is made up of hundreds of thousands of individuals who strive to embody the highest level of teamwork, hospitality and inclusion. Traits that we want to also see demonstrated around us in our nation and world. But recent tragedies have left many of us filled with grief and sorrow at how far short we often fall from these ideals. Now we are faced with the task of self-reflection and of carrying out whatever is required to begin healing these painful divisions.

While this is an issue that has a profound impact on the black community it's also a human issue and we recognize that we all will have a role to play in finding solutions where everyone is treated with equal recognition and respect. In a moment like this, it's important we all come together with open hearts and open minds to seek the long-term solutions necessary.

To the black community, we see you, we hear you and we stand by you and support you!

The answers may not be in front of us now but we can take the time to research, to listen, and to learn. To share accurate information. To speak up and take helpful action. Uplift and connect with others. We can all do better.

Our thoughts are with those who are grieving and with those who are frightened. United, we are all here for you. Let us know how we can help.

Resources to learn more, support and to act

@colorofchange
@mnfreedomfund
@aclu_nationwide
@blackvisionscollective
@blklivesmatter
@campaignzero
@ncbmp_
@shiftingtheculture
@Mvmnt4BlkLives

Sincerely,

MPIOC Office of the President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Pawntra Shadab'.

Pawntra Shadab
2019/2020 President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brian Gilman'.

Brian Gilman
2018/2019 President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bruno Duarte'.

Bruno Duarte
2020/2021 President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jon Trask'.

Jon Trask
2021/2022 President