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## Joint Statement Hopkinton Select Board and Hopkinton Police Department Standing United Against Racism

As we continue to work together, united, representing the residents of Hopkinton, we would like to send a clear message that we stand against racism. We condemn the recent killings of Black Americans, including George Floyd, at the hands of police officers. We extend our sympathies to the families and friends of those whose lives were taken so senselessly.

Together, we stand in grief and sorrow against these unconscionable acts of violence, which violated police officers' oaths to protect and serve. Further, we acknowledge and condemn the tragic reality that discrimination against people of color in America is part of deeply rooted systems of oppression. We stand together today to say that as a country, we must do better. This begins in our communities, where we must fight racism and bias, explicit and implicit, and work to create and keep communities that are welcoming and just.

We all have a role to play in fighting racial injustice every day. To that end, we invite our citizens to engage with us in standing up for justice and in making Hopkinton a welcoming and inclusive community in which to live, work, and visit.