Dear Members of the Penn Community,

We add our voices to those of other Penn Medicine leaders regarding the deaths of countless innocent Black people, including George Floyd and Breonna Taylor - Americans who were violated by the public servants enlisted for their protection. Although recent events have brought new light to these shameful practices, the past few months are but a small fraction compared to the legacy of uneven treatment that has been afforded people of color. It has existed in a systemic way, embedded in institutionalized oppression across the United States. We recognize it and it is our duty to stand up and make change.

The Department of Pathology at the University of Pennsylvania will not tolerate discriminatory practices in any of its forms. Our goal is to establish systems that celebrate our differences and create safety for our employees of diverse race, religions, gender, and sexual orientation. The only way we will move forward as a country is together.

All lives won't matter until Black lives do.

David Roth MD PhD Chair, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine

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