



Media Contact:
Kendra Cummings
Vistra Communications
Kendra@ConsultVistra.com
813.961.4700 Ext. 206

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Recent Agency Policy Changes and Legislation Announced Following NOBLE's "First Four" Recommendations

Alexandria, VA. – June 7, 2020 – Immediately following the death of George Floyd, NOBLE released a list of four immediate policy changes for state and local law enforcement agencies to adopt and implement. The “first four” are the initial steps of change to modernize police agencies across the country. The first four recommendations are:

1. Mandatory de-escalation training for all officers.
2. Prohibition of all physical restraint maneuvers on or above the neck and any physical act that restricts the flow of blood or oxygen to the brain.
3. Requiring officers to render medical aid to all people.
4. Requiring that officers intervene where physical force is being applied to either stop or attempt to stop another officer when force is being inappropriately applied or is no longer required.

Last Friday, the Minneapolis Police Department announced their ban on officers use of chokeholds, strangleholds, and neck restraints. Fifteen (15) San Diego County, California police agencies banned the use of chokehold restraints igniting California legislators to also announce their proposed statewide ban on carotid holds. Similar legislative actions are underway in Colorado, Utah, Connecticut, Indiana, Ohio, New York, and Washington, DC. These are important first steps in moving our communities forward with justice by action.

NOBLE was also pleased to hear police leaders in Mecklenburg County, NC and Dallas, TX, were leading the national movement to adopt “duty to intervene” policies. We strongly believe these policy updates will protect the community and empower law enforcement officers to act as guardians of this noble profession.

“NOBLE continues to advocate for common-sense public safety agency standards. The blueprint for modern, effective 21st century policing practices already exist and NOBLE helped create it,” said NOBLE National President Cerelyn J. Davis. “Now is the time for change. Not because there are protesters in the streets, but because we are conscience professionals who know there is a better way to ensure the safety and well-being of our communities.”

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About the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives

Since 1976, The National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE) has served as the conscience of law enforcement by being committed to justice by action. NOBLE represents over 3,000 members internationally, who are primarily African American chief executive officers of law enforcement agencies at federal, state, county and municipal levels, other law enforcement administrators, and criminal justice practitioners. For more information, visit www.NOBLENational.org.