



# STATE SENATOR LaTonya Johnson

WISCONSIN STATE SENATE

6<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 21, 2021

## CONTACT:

LaTonya Johnson  
608.266.2500

## Sen. Johnson Statement on Derek Chauvin Guilty Verdict

**MADISON** - In response to the verdict of guilty on all counts in the trial of former Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin for the killing of George Floyd last May, State Senator LaTonya Johnson (D-Milwaukee) released the following statement:

“The verdict handed down to Derek Chauvin, the officer who murdered George Floyd by kneeling on his neck until he died, was a win for Mr. Floyd’s family and a small glimpse of justice for African Americans across our state,” said Sen. LaTonya Johnson (D-Milwaukee). “I was extremely happy about the verdict and that George’s murderer was held accountable for his heinous actions. African Americans everywhere were forced to relive that horrific moment each time the tape of Mr. Floyd’s death was played.”

After roughly 10 hours of deliberation, the jury in the trial of Derek Chauvin announced a verdict finding Chauvin guilty of Second Degree Murder, Third Degree Murder, and Second Degree Manslaughter in connection to the killing of George Floyd last May. Throughout the course of the trial, prosecutors laid out a compelling case that highlighted Chauvin’s negligence, and disregard for human life.

“It’s already difficult to be a person of color, but it becomes even more difficult when you have to worry about your child every time they walk out the door. Make no mistake, we all know that not all police officers are bad individuals. However, for *true* justice to prevail we must root out the bad apples and dismantle the racist systems and institutions that made Mr. Floyd’s horrific death possible.

We must institute laws that hold bad actors accountable, reform use-of-force policies, and address systemic patterns of abuse by empowering our state attorney general with the authority to investigate repeated civil rights violations by local police departments.”

# # #