The Society of Jewish Ethics forcefully and unequivocally condemns the recent murders of Breonna Taylor, Nina Pop, George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, Tony McDade, James Scurlock, and David McAtee (among many, many others) and the appalling, militarized violence leveled by police forces across the country toward Black communities who have risen up in justified outrage against the ongoing, murderous burden of white supremacy. We stand in solidarity with the protestors.

We affirm #BlackLivesMatter.

As scholars of Judaism and ethics, we stand against state-sanctioned violence against civilians, and we bear a deep awareness of the consequences of targeting such violence against marginalized populations.

We are also aware that discourses in our academic fields of study have histories of perpetuating white supremacy through the erasure and marginalization of Black people and other people of color, including Jews of Color, from our scholarship, from our syllabi, from our professional organizations, and from our departments.

We recognize that inequities and injustices in the academy are complicit in producing inequities and injustices on the ground. Therefore, we commit as an organization to the following concrete actions:

* The SJE will take steps to increase representation from Black scholars, indigenous scholars, and other scholars of color in our programs. We will further commit to inviting a scholar of color as our plenary speaker for our 2022 annual meeting.

* We will develop syllabus resources to aid instructors in incorporating antiracist framing, Black scholarship, and other non-white scholarship into Jewish ethics courses. We will make these resources publicly available on our website and circulate these resources widely within Jewish Studies. We also welcome collaboration with our partner organizations—the Society of Christian Ethics and the Society for the Study of Muslim Ethics—along these lines.

* We will actively solicit programming that interrogates white supremacy in Jewish communities and institutions.