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A STATEMENT FROM MICHAEL MELARA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Almost a year ago, we saw the tragic murder of George Floyd. Yesterday, the jury found Derek Chauvin guilty on all three charges pertaining to George Floyd's murder. We hope this verdict is a turning point in acknowledging the deep pain and trauma experienced by Black America. While the outcome of this trial will not bring him back, we at Catholic Charities continue to extend our prayers to the family of George Floyd and hope that this moment brings the Floyd family some peace and healing to the immeasurable grief.

We are hopeful that this act of accountability is the beginning to the road of justice for the many victims of racism and killings. We stand with and grieve for those who have come before him as well as for those who continue to face racism.

We, as a country and community, still have many more steps to take and work to do. We hope this verdict reminds us all of the infinite value of every person and our shared humanity. Catholic Charities remains committed to fighting systemic racism, rejecting hatred, and being a part of the solution.