

**Statement of Clerical-Administrative Local 1549 DC 37 AFSCME
On the Get Your Knee Off Our Neck March on Washington**

Since the homicide of Eric Garner seven years ago and more recently that of George Floyd and others, Local 1549 leaders and members have joined marches and rallies from coast to coast calling on reforms to the judicial system and an end to police brutality, especially of people of color. We know also that Black Lives Matters means ending disparities in healthcare, housing, jobs, and wages.

We along with the thousands of marchers today will make our voices heard. Local 1549 and its membership will honor the march leader's call to register to vote, fill out the 2020 US Census, and sign up to be poll monitors and poll workers for the upcoming November elections.

Our union Local 1549 will continue to march, rally and lobby to make sure that the judicial system is fair and that all the disparities based on race, nationality and gender are abolished in this country. We know we can win these reforms that will benefit all people.

If won, these victories will build upon those won during the Civil Rights Movement and the historic 1963 March on Washington. The Civil Rights, Voting Rights and Housing Rights Acts along with Medicare and Medicaid were democratic wins for all Americans passed by congress in the years immediately following that march.

We pledge to continue this fight until the demands of this march and movement are met. In the words of the late Civil Rights leader John Lewis, "We will make good trouble" until they are.

In solidarity,

Eddie Rodriguez, President Local 1549