

Community Policing and Engagement with Black Women and Girls

WHEREAS, the members of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Incorporated, not unlike the nation, have observed significant and consistent increase in inappropriate police contact with Black women and girls;

WHEREAS, in the cases of two teen girls attending neighborhood events in Ohio and Texas that arrests presented as aggressive manhandling, the beating on the roadside by Los Angeles police of Marlene Pinnock, a homeless woman with a history of mental illness in 2014, and the recent case of Sandra Bland who died in police custody after an exaggerated arrest, are all Black women;

WHEREAS, the members of the Coalition find this type of police engagement unacceptable and demand it stop immediately;

WHEREAS, the Coalition does not believe that all law enforcement personnel commit such aggressive acts, however, the absence of and non-enforcement of such a community policing model increases the likelihood of adverse incidents of violent acts by the police;

WHEREAS, the Coalition believes that culturally competent, trauma informed and gender responsive elements in police training is essential to effective police engagement and a victimless community policing model; *and*

WHEREAS, the Coalition believes the problem with police engagement today is systemic and requires sweeping universal policies and protocols to stop any further injury or death of Black women and girls.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that members of the Coalition across the country will request a comprehensive review of current law enforcement practices and that there be universal protocol development and as needed enforcement of applicable laws and/or promulgation of new laws be enacted to ensure safety, appropriate arrest and due process be afforded every accused person; *and*

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that these said members will request that Attorneys General in local, state and national offices and Congressional members of the Judiciary Committee implement this review and that retooling include but not be limited to the following:

- 1) Protocols for handling of Women arrests
- 2) Use of Force/Excessive Force during arrest process
- 3) Use of Inflammatory and Provocative language pre/post arrest
- 4) Use of Surveillance Camera-body and dash cameras at time of car stops and arrest
- 5) Conducting ongoing Post Traumatic Stress Disorder Assessments post critical incidents to determine real time **Fitness for Duty** and who gets the call to respond.

Submitted By the NCBW Public Policy Committee