



A Special Message from Chief of Police *Jerry Price*

Nothing hurts a community more than a break in public trust. Every time I swear in a new police officer, I take a moment to share my expectations for that officer and to ensure he or she understands they have an opportunity to achieve great things in service to our community. I say this because La Habra is known as “A Caring Community,” and for that reason, we as officers have the responsibility and privilege to not only maintain safety and security, but to care for and cultivate lasting connections with all of La Habra. The men and women of the La Habra Police Department are the people who make that happen and they have my respect and admiration.

Like you, I've seen the video of the death of Mr. George Floyd, which occurred while under arrest by a peace officer. Without question, this is deeply concerning and the loss of Mr. Floyd is heartbreaking. We cannot move forward without acknowledging the pain that Mr. Floyd's family will forever endure. We cannot move forward without understanding how Mr. Floyd's death has caused a breach in the public's trust.

Minneapolis is nearly 2,000 miles from La Habra, but law enforcement is a profession that has a tremendous amount of responsibility and authority whether it's here or there. I want you to know that the men and women of the La Habra Police Department are saddened and disappointed by what happened to Mr. Floyd. We know that we are responsible for ensuring the proper use of our resources and tactics under our control and that we have a solemn obligation to always operate in a professional manner consistent with the law. Without fail, we expect our officers to be strong, yet compassionate. We expect them to act at all times with pride, both for themselves and those we serve. And we expect them to interact with the public with honor, respect, and integrity.

We are grateful for the extraordinary relationship we have with our La Habra Community, and we acknowledge that the public's perspective of law enforcement cannot help but be impacted by what has happened in Minneapolis. We hurt with Mr. Floyd's family, our community, and our nation.

But this does not diminish our commitment to the community. We ask that all La Habrans continue their partnership with law enforcement and that they reach out to their friends, family, neighbors, and the La Habra Police Department, so that together, we can continue to make La Habra a great home for everyone.