



MAYOR BYRON W. BROWN

As a black man, a father, an uncle and as the Mayor of Buffalo for 15 years, I have watched a whole generation of black children grow up and what I saw on the video of George Floyd's arrest was deeply disturbing and painful. After years of protest and calls for change situations like this must stop occurring. What happened to George Floyd was a brutal act that senselessly ended his life and people are justifiably angry. However, the pain that people are feeling in Minneapolis, Buffalo and in communities across our nation should not result in violence and vandalism. We must come together and build a community of justice rather than needlessly destroy our own neighborhoods and businesses. In Buffalo we have trained every officer as a community police officer to establish better community-police relations, we have equipped our officers with body cameras for greater accountability and diversified our police department to be more representative of the community our officers serve. These actions and others are building blocks in our goal to provide the highest quality police services to our community. That is how we will get through this as a City of Good Neighbors. My prayers, as well as those of our entire community, go out to the family and friends of George Floyd and our hope for justice in this situation and systemic change in our nation remains unwavering.