



FORT WORTH TARRANT COUNTY
NAACP
CHARTERED 1934

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 14, 2019

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**Fort Worth Tarrant County NAACP
Statement Regarding the Killing of Atatiana Jefferson**

The Fort Worth Tarrant County NAACP remains deeply concerned by the killing of 28-year-old Atatiana Jefferson on Saturday Morning October 12, 2019 around 2:30 am by City of Fort Worth Police Officer, Aaron Dean. We are in disbelief that a simple welfare call to the city non-emergency phone number by a concerned neighbor could end with the death of Ms. Jefferson by a Police Officer who is sworn to protect and serve.

The general orders and protocols violated by this officer places our citizens in danger because now good Samaritans will be hesitant to call the police at all. Clearly, there should be an independent investigation of this shooting by an outside agency. This branch of the NAACP calls for a top to bottom review of the training, selection process, psychological makeup, ongoing use of force and all other aspects of the departmental training and recruiting process by an independent provider.

We urge the community to wrap their arms around the Jefferson family with prayer and love as they continue to mourn the death of their daughter, aunt and sibling. We also ask for this same act of kindness for Mr. James Smith, the concerned neighbor who requested the original welfare check.

The Fort Worth Tarrant County NAACP along with leaders from other community based organizations will meet to discuss next steps. After which we will schedule a meeting with the Fort Worth Interim Chief of Police and his command staff to address the issues and present recommended solutions.

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