



Seattle Domestic Workers Standards Board

June 10, 2020

Mayor Jenny Durkan
City of Seattle
600 Fourth Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Mayor Jenny Durkan,

The Domestic Workers Standards Board (DWSB) condemns the violence perpetrated against Black people by police here and across the country and calls for the immediate defunding of the Seattle Police Department (SPD).

It has become clear that SPD and police forces nationwide have abdicated their mission to serve and protect the public. Peaceful protests have escalated into violent conflict because police forces chose to treat Constitutionally-protected protest as a criminal act. As the city faces a massive shortfall of revenue from the global pandemic of COVID-19, we ask that instead of allocating nearly \$400 million to SPD, a minimum of 50% of the public safety budget be redistributed into departments and initiatives that serve the best interest of Seattle's Black communities.

Furthermore, the Domestic Workers Standards Board co-signs the demands made explicit by Black Lives Matter- Seattle/King County, [outlined in full here](#), and in the and in the [petition of King County Equity Now](#).

We pledge our unwavering support in the fight to establish justice, equity, and safety for Black people in Seattle, and we demand the same from you, Mayor Durkan, and every elected official in this city. We enthusiastically support ongoing protests until the needs of the Black community are met.

Mayor Durkan, you and the Seattle City Council appointed us to determine the needs, principles, and protocols for the domestic worker community. We believe, by standing with our Black neighbors and demanding their right to life, liberty, and equal protection under the law, that we are fulfilling that mission.

Signed,

The City of Seattle Domestic Workers Standards Board

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dana Barnett".

Dana Barnett, co-chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Silvia Gonzalez".

Silvia Gonzalez, co-chair