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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Verdict Statement Released From Philando Castile Relief Foundation
President Valerie Castile**

MINNEAPOLIS, MN (April 26, 2021) - On April 20, 2021 at approximately 4:00pm CST, Derek Chauvin was found guilty on all three counts of murdered charged. As the communities of color in the State of Minnesota continue their fight for justice and equality, today's verdict was cause for celebration. "The judge's announcement of guilty of all counts was music to my ears and strength to my soul", said Valerie Castile, Philando Castile Relief Foundation President. Ms. Castile went on to say, "today I watched the verdict with my daughter and we both shed tears of joy and relief for the accountability that we rarely get the opportunity to witness, and for the tremendous fight ahead of us for human rights. Ms. Castile expressed gratitude for a no-nonsense jury and judge, and to Attorney General Keith Ellison, Governor Tim Walz, protestors and allies in the struggle.

Minnesotans displayed progression and honored the legacies of the late Hubert Humphrey and Walter Mondale, whose passed away the date before the verdict was read. The murder of George Floyd was the catalyst for the largest Civil Rights movement in history. The path to justice comes in the sentencing phase in which Ms. Castile believes Derek Chauvin should receive the maximum sentence. The Philando Castile Relief Foundation will work in the community to move forward by pushing legislation to approve the Philando Castile Omnibus Bill HF784/SF800 and many other bills that will bring change and stabilization to marginalized communities.

"Our hearts are with the Floyd family and send congratulations on your victory. Your victory is a victory for all of people around the world", said Ms. Castile.

Go to: <http://www.philandocastilefoundation.org> to support and to learn more about the mission of the Philando Castile Relief Foundation.

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About Philando Castile Relief Foundation

The Philando Castile Relief Fund (PCRF) was created out of the tragic loss of Philando Castile. Philando's life was tragically and publicly taken in 2016 by a police officer shooting during a traffic stop. At the time, Philando had been working for the St. Paul school district for 15+ years in food nutrition and had been promoted to Supervisor. Because of Philando's generosity and continued desire to support the children he worked around, it was a natural transition to sustain that generosity to others, after his passing. In addition, Philando's mother and family maintained a desire to not allow his death to be forgotten or seen as another statistical loss to gun violence. The PCRF is another way to keep Philando's generosity paying itself forward and assist other parents that have suffered the loss of a loved one from gun violence.