

Four Minneapolis Police Officers Fired Following Death Of Black Man After Cop Kneeled on His Neck

By [Matthew Impelli](#) On 5/26/20 at 3:59 PM EDT

The Minneapolis Police Department has fired four officers involved in the death of George Floyd, a black man who died following his arrest on Monday.

The announcement was made by Minneapolis Mayor Jacob Frey, who said on Twitter that the move was the "right call."

"Four responding MPD officers involved in the death of George Floyd have been terminated," Frey wrote. "This is the right call."

The names of the four officers have not been released by the Minneapolis Police Department.

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— Mayor Jacob Frey (@MayorFrey) [May 26, 2020](#)

Floyd's arrest was documented via several videos shared across social media on Monday night, many showing the man restrained by an officer who placed a knee to his neck. In one video, Floyd can be heard repeatedly saying he cannot breathe and he later appears to lose consciousness. Floyd was later pronounced dead at the Hennepin County Medical Center.



A protester prays in front of the memorial of George Floyd who died in custody on May 26, 2020 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Kerem Yucel/Getty

According to the Minneapolis Police Department, Monday's encounter began when four officers responded to a call about a man attempting to use forged documents at a Cup Foods supermarket near 38th Street and Chicago Avenue on Monday. In a statement released by the police department, the officers found the man in his car.

The attorney hired by Floyd's family to represent them subsequently identified Floyd as the suspect the police located.

According to the police, Floyd appeared intoxicated and was ordered to exit his car. It is unclear if he was immediately restrained, but a statement from the police department indicated that officers noticed Floyd in "medical distress" after he was placed in handcuffs.

"Officers called for an ambulance. He was transported to Hennepin County Medical Center by ambulance where he died a short time later," the statement from the Minneapolis Police Department reads. "At no time were weapons of any type used by anyone involved in this incident."

Following Floyd's death, many prominent figures across the state spoke out against the incident, including Frey and Minnesota Senator Amy Klobuchar.

"Being Black in America should not be a death sentence. For five minutes, we watched a white officer press his knee into a Black man's neck. Five minutes. When you hear someone calling for help, you're supposed to help. This officer failed in the most basic, human sense," Frey posted on his Facebook page.

In a statement posted to Twitter, Klobuchar called the incident "yet another horrifying and gutwrenching [sic] instance of an African American man dying."

My statement on the officer-involved death in Minneapolis: pic.twitter.com/HUoGfXEjZR

— Amy Klobuchar (@amyklobuchar) [May 26, 2020](#)

"There must be a complete and thorough outside investigation into what occurred," Klobuchar added. "and those involved in this incident must be held accountable. Justice must be served for this man and his family, justice must be served for our community, and justice must be served for our country."

Newsweek reached out to the Minneapolis Police Department for further comment but did not receive a response in time for publication.

This story will be updated with more information.