

June 2, 2020

As a concerned citizen, a professional engineer, and a resident of Minnesota, I am shocked and saddened by the scenes we are seeing play out on the streets of our country today.

NSPE and the engineering community are part of our larger society. We cannot ignore the trauma that America is experiencing, and we deplore the injustice within our society that led to the deaths of Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, and George Floyd, and the violence it has in some places provoked. Racism in any form is not acceptable.

It all points to the importance and need to address in a forceful, constructive and systematic way the issues of diversity, inclusion and equity within our own profession, for our own good and the betterment of society as a whole.

To this end, I would remind all members that basic human decency and the [NSPE Code of Ethics](#) demand that “Engineers shall treat all persons with dignity, respect, fairness and without discrimination.”

“Promoting Diversity and Tomorrow’s Engineer” is a pillar of the [NSPE strategic plan](#), which affirms that “NSPE is committed to improving the profession by advocating for and supporting a climate of diversity and inclusion. Through ongoing and effective partnering, training, programs and outreach, NSPE will actively work to ensure that membership in our organization reflects the ever-changing demographic of our society.” Our work in this area is being actively pursued by the NSPE Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Advisory Committee, as documented on the [DEI resource page](#) of the NSPE website and which will be featured in the next issue of PE Magazine.

As professional engineers and leaders in our communities, we are committed to applying our talents and knowledge to make the world a better place for all. The events we are witnessing make us all painfully aware of the work that remains to be done to address the root causes of this societal ill and heal its wounds, and underline the imperative, as a profession, of putting our own house in order.



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