



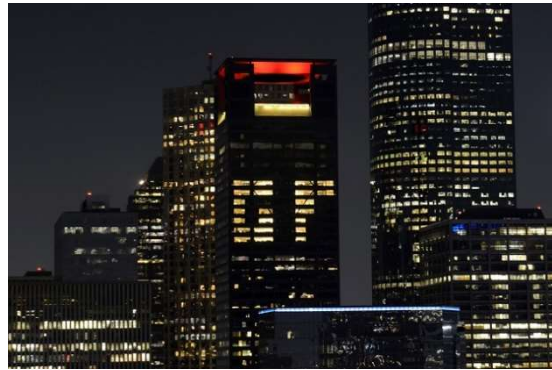
Bending the arc toward justice

Verdict in George Floyd's murder is guilty; his legacy depends on all of us

This afternoon, a jury convicted former Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin for the murder of George Floyd – delivering an important message of justice and accountability for his killing on Memorial Day last year.

While this guilty verdict is significant, what promises to be far more momentous is the enduring impact of George Floyd's legacy for the cause of racial justice in America.

George Floyd's murder outraged the world, and we at CenterPoint Energy shared in that outrage. His killing sparked the largest, widest-reaching wave of civil rights protests in U.S. history and galvanized an American reckoning on issues of race, policing and justice.



We want to make clear that we respect law enforcement officers for their courage and dedication to public service. We recognize the enormous challenges they face every day, especially life-threatening situations. Our field employees often work side-by-side with law enforcement in emergency situations, and we appreciate that some of our employees have prior law enforcement experience or have family members in law enforcement.

However, what happened to George Floyd shined a spotlight on the broader issue of violence against communities of color, especially in the lives of Black men and women. His legacy is a call-to-action for all of us. It offers us the opportunity to transform grief into hope with the determination to create a more just and inclusive society. **It is a reminder that we can always learn better, listen better and do better. Every day.**

At CNP, we embrace this quest. We know it is the right thing to do – for our employees and our company, as well as for our customers and the communities we serve. But we have a lot of work ahead. Let's all do our very best every day to lead with principle, purpose and passion, and find ways, big and small, to appreciate the value in our differences.

Finally, we can learn from the wisdom of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. that, "the arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice." For if George Floyd's death leaves us a legacy, it is a summons for each one of us – and all of us together – to do our part to keep bending the arc of the moral universe even further toward justice.