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41 Schemerhorn Street
Suite 1081
Brooklyn, NY 11201
1.929.998.9031
www.ASoulfulHeart.org

A SOULFUL HEART MEMORIALIZING GEORGE FLOYD, JR.

A 501(c)(3) NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

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Love McCall
1.336.344.0080
info@ASoulfulHeart.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Frank Tyson is now yet another name on America's "List of Shame" – a growing list of epidemic proportion enumerating the victims of police brutality. In a murder that is eerily reminiscent of George Floyd, 53-year-old Frank Tyson was tackled to the ground by two 24-year-old rookie police officers in Canton, Ohio, one of whom placed his knee on Mr. Tyson's upper back. Like George Floyd, Mr. Tyson told the officers he could not breathe, to which one of the officers replied, "You're fine." And after leaving Mr. Tyson on the ground, unresponsive, for five minutes; after someone finally checked on him and realized he had quit breathing; only *then* was he given CPR and Narcan. Mr. Tyson later died at a local hospital - another Black man killed at the hands of White police officers.

The disturbing police footage of Frank Tyson makes it impossible, yet again, to ignore what happens with police officers who are not properly trained or supervised. The two 24-year-old officers had only graduated from the policy academy in 2023. They had both been given a six-month probationary extension so that they could have "more time to learn." One of the officers, Officer Camden Burch, had been fired from his job at Target for theft, lied about it when applying for his police job, and yet was hired by the Canton Police Department anyway after they learned of his past.

Tragically, because of the officers' inhumane treatment – and lack of medical treatment - Mr. Tyson's family had to plan his funeral. And like George Floyd, a large segment of the press is now focusing on his time in prison, as if a man who paid his debt to society has less rights to breathe. The desecration of Mr. Tyson's character is reprehensible, and A Soulful Heart condemns such purported "journalism." Ironically, Mr. Tyson had begun investigating legal remedies regarding his criminal case which he believed to be unjust; now, he can no longer even attempt to seek justice.

As A Soulful Heart has said repeatedly: If we, as a society, do not actively become part of change, more names will be added to America's List of Shame. More lives will be taken. More families will suffer. More futures will be ruined. Regardless of the differences among us of race, gender, and/or religion, everyone deserves equal opportunity and a chance to live without fear. No one should have to worry when they leave their homes that they may not come back, that they may be the latest victim of police brutality.

Now more than ever, people from all walks of life need to join together in celebrating and honoring the life of Frank Tyson by doing the necessary work to be his voice, and to help in doing whatever is necessary to stop this epidemic of police brutality and murder.

Our sincere condolences go to the family and friends of Frank Tyson.