

## George Floyd Context

Between 1997 and 2007, George Floyd had several criminal convictions in Harris County, Texas, primarily for drug possession, theft, and trespass, resulting in multiple jail stints. His most serious conviction was a 2007 charge for aggravated robbery with a deadly weapon, for which he served five years in prison before being paroled in 2013.

### Key Details of Criminal Record, Texas:

- **1997 to 2005:** Multiple arrests for drug offenses, cocaine possession and delivery, and theft, leading to several jail sentences.
- **2001:** Sentenced to 15 days for failure to identify himself to a police officer.
- **2004:** Arrested for cocaine possession; this conviction was later subject to a requested posthumous pardon in 2021 due to the arresting officer being investigated for falsifying evidence.
- **2007:** Charged with aggravated robbery, a woman reported that a **gunman forced his way into her home**. He pleaded guilty in 2009 and was sentenced to **five years in prison**.
- **2009 to 2013:** Incarcerated for the 2007 robbery charge; released on parole in 2013.

### Other Findings:

- Following his incarceration, Floyd moved to Minneapolis for a fresh start, where he was not convicted of any serious crimes.
- Court records confirm nine primary arrests, though there may have been more.
- He was arrested in 2005 for possession of less than one gram of cocaine.
- In 2002, he was arrested for criminal trespassing on private property.

Floyd's earlier, shorter prison sentences were tied to drug offenses, specifically cocaine possession, for which he received sentences of 8 and 10 months.

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Former Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin was sentenced to 22.5 years, 270 months, in prison for the second-degree murder of George Floyd. The June 2021 sentence exceeded state guidelines due to abuse of authority and particular cruelty. He is serving this concurrently with a 21-year federal sentence for violating Floyd's civil rights.

### Key Sentencing Details:

- **Charges:** Convicted of second-degree unintentional murder, third-degree murder, and second-degree manslaughter.
- **Sentence Length:** 22 years and 6 months, 22.5 years.
- **Concurrent Terms:** Chauvin is serving the state sentence alongside a 21-year federal sentence for violating George Floyd's civil rights.
- **Release Date:** With credit for time served, 199 days, and standard reductions, his projected release date is in 2037.
- **Additional Penalties:** Lifetime firearm ban, requirement to register as a predatory offender, and submission of a DNA sample.

The sentence was upheld by the Minnesota Court of Appeals in April 2023. The other three officers involved received lesser sentences, ranging from 3 to 4.75 years, for aiding and abetting manslaughter and federal civil rights violations.

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## **Union of Saints Findings**

The Union of Saints finds that the cost of activism, including deaths and widespread damage, outweighs the issue surrounding George Floyd's death.

Looting, arson, and violent acts are acts of war, not acts of peaceful protest. Activists have claimed that the protests were peaceful and that police violence ensued; however, these facts remain contested. Activists themselves are often unaware of the human toll and hidden costs of these political wars, as "activist-washing" encourages bias and extreme ideology within these movements.

In other words, there is a lack of consideration for the general public's experience, including public servants such as firefighters, paramedics, police officers, business owners, and innocent bystanders. While police brutality must be addressed and held accountable, politically driven violence is also a societal wrong.

Activists are often not held accountable for the harms they contribute to. At this time, the Union of Saints finds activists more culpable in this case, as the damage associated with the protests, including up to \$2 billion dollars in property damage, the destruction of thousands of businesses, and up to 25 deaths during subsequent clashes, far outweighs the death of one individual.

George Floyd's prior criminal record included multiple arrests, among them a serious incident involving an armed home invasion. In that case, a woman reported having a firearm pressed against her stomach, being struck in the head and abdomen, and left on the ground by another armed individual. These events formed part of a documented pattern of past conduct. At the time of his final arrest, George Floyd was accused of attempting to use counterfeit currency in a retail transaction.

Though the officer's actions were a clear act of negligence, he is ultimately serving his sentence, whereas the protests that ensued furthered social violence. Sadly, the targeting that followed harmed innocent people in its wake.

Based on this position, activists, as a responsible guilty party in this case, should be held accountable for violent societal harms and should de-escalate their actions immediately.

Furthermore, we call on the public to recognize acts of war and terrorism for what they are, and to reject them unequivocally, regardless of the cause under which they are carried out.

Source: <https://cdn.factcheck.org/UploadedFiles/34242985.pdf>

Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vksEJR9EPQ8>

Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jdsPofdxu78>

Source:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arson\\_damage\\_during\\_the\\_George\\_Floyd\\_protests\\_in\\_Minneapolis%26amp;Saint\\_Paul](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arson_damage_during_the_George_Floyd_protests_in_Minneapolis%26amp;Saint_Paul)



Minneapolis in daylight, smoke still billowing from burnt-out buildings, debris scattered





And again there was violence. Amid the chaos,  
one man was shot dead.



















