

# *The Arizona Legislative Alert*

Bringing Unitarian Universalist Values to Public Policy

## Remember His Name

*Prepared by Anne L. Schneider, PH.D. All opinions are those of the author.*

Access the PDF here: <http://files.vuu.org/uujaz/2019/alert-060120.pdf>

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June 1, 2020

### FIND YOUR LEGISLATORS!

<https://azredistricting.org/districtlocator/> put in your address, get your Legislative District  
<https://www.azleg.gov/memberroster/> Legislative Members, by District

Mr. George Floyd died last week.

How are we to confront systemic racism? What can we do in the aftermath of still another black person dying at the hands of someone who is supposed to protect them? At the Unitarian Universalist service this morning, the worship associate Barbara F. said to do this:

**Remember his name. Remember Mr. George Floyd.**

**Here's an excerpt of what she said:**

Remember Mr. George Floyd who senselessly lost his life facedown on the street by another human who should have been there to save his life. What do we know about Mr. Floyd? Why should we know about him? It's important to humanize the Black Folks who have lost their lives to racism. When people ask me what they can do to heal systemic racism, I advise them to research those who have died. Know their names. Know their character. Make them human.....He was 46 years old. He was a high school athlete who moved from Houston to Minneapolis to make a better life for himself. He was a good father. He had a big heart. He was a hard worker who was good with customers.

**Remember his name: Mr. George Floyd**

**Remember their names:**

The Washington post database includes the following people of color in Arizona who have been killed by the police, so far in 2020:

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/investigations/police-shootings-database/>

- Jose Moreno, 30 year old Hispanic man, from Mesa
- Rosa Ria Angel Alverado, 41 year old Hispanic man, Chandler
- Jeremy Dewey, 27 year old Native American, Pine Top
- Robert Cocio, 39 year old Hispanic man, Tucson
- Armando Moreno Garcia, 37 year old Hispanic man, Mesa
- Xavier Jaimie Rovie, 28 year old Hispanic man, Phoenix
- Richard Ruiz, 38 year old Hispanic man, Phoenix
- Dion Jonson, 28 year old Black man, Phoenix.

**Dion Johnson**, 28 year old black man, was shot by a Department of Safety trooper just last week and vigils are being held in Phoenix now. Police said 28-year-old Dion Johnson was shot following a struggle with a trooper on May 25 on the Loop 101 at Tatum Boulevard. Activist groups said Johnson was unarmed and asleep. They demanded release of the body-worn camera footage depicting the shooting. Updated reports say the officer did not have a body cam turned on, thus there were no videos of the shooting.

The National Public Radio has his list of black persons killed by police during the past few years:

ERIC GARNER - JOHN CRAWFORD III - MICHAEL BROWN - EZELL FORD  
DANTE PARKER - MICHELLE CUSSEAU - LAQUAN MCDONALD - GEORGE MANN  
TANISHA ANDERSON - AKAI GURLEY - TAMIR RICE - RUMAIN BRISBON - JERAME REID  
MATTHEW AJIBADE - FRANK SMART - NATASHA MCKENNA - TONY ROBINSON - ANTHONY HILL  
MYA HALL - PHILLIP WHITE - ERIC HARRIS - WALTER SCOTT - WILLIAM CHAPMAN II  
ALEXIA CHRISTIAN - BRENDON GLENN - VICTOR MANUEL LAROSA - JONATHAN SANDERS  
FREDDIE BLUE - JOSEPH MANN - SALVADO ELLSWOOD - SANDRA BLAND  
ALBERT JOSEPH DAVIS - DARRIUS STEWART - BILLY RAY DAVIS - SAMUEL DUBOSE  
MICHAEL SABBIE - BRIAN KEITH DAY - CHRISTIAN TAYLOR - TROY ROBINSON  
ASSHAMS PHAROAH MANLEY - FELIX KUMI - KEITH HARRISON MCLEOD - JUNIOR PROSPER  
LAMONTEZ JONES - PATERSON BROWN - DOMINIC HUTCHINSON - ANTHONY ASHFORD  
ALONZO SMITH - TYREE CRAWFORD - INDIA KAGER - LA'VANTE BIGGS  
MICHAEL LEE MARSHALL - JAMAR CLARK - RICHARD PERKINS - NATHANIEL HARRIS PICKETT  
BENNI LEE TIGNOR - MIGUEL ESPINAL - MICHAEL NOEL - KEVIN MATTHEWS - BETTIE JONES  
QUINTONIO LEGRIER - KEITH CHILDRESS JR. - JANET WILSON - RANDY NELSON  
ANTRONIE SCOTT - WENDELL CELESTINE - DAVID JOSEPH - CALIN ROQUEMORE - DYZHAWN  
PERKINS - CHRISTOPHER DAVIS - MARCO LOUD - PETER GAINES - TORREY ROBINSON - DARIUS  
ROBINSON - KEVIN HICKS - MARY TRUXILLO - DEMARCUS SEMER - WILLIE TILLMAN  
TERRILL THOMAS - SYLVILLE SMITH - ALTON STERLING - PHILANDO CASTILE - TERENCE  
CRUTCHER - PAUL O'NEAL - ALTERIA WOODS - JORDAN EDWARDS - AARON BAILEY  
RONELL FOSTER - STEPHON CLARK - ANTWON ROSE II - BOTHAM JEAN  
PAMELA TURNER - DOMINIQUE CLAYTON - ATATIANA JEFFERSON - CHRISTOPHER WHITFIELD  
CHRISTOPHER MCCORVEY - ERIC REASON - MICHAEL LORENZO DEAN - BREONNA TAYLOR  
G E O R G E F L O Y D

Compiled by *LA Johnson/NPR*

### Initiatives/ Petitions

**Let's Keep Trying!** CORONA VIRUS has postponed almost everything, including gathering signatures for petitions. Nevertheless, here's the initiatives that are still active and need signatures by July! Let's keep trying. Sign up to volunteer. Put petitions out on your sidewalk!

- One new initiative petition has been added to the "let's support these" list, and that is Health Care Rising <https://www.healthcarerisingaz.org/>. It would require private hospitals to meet the same national health safety standards as public; provide some protection for patients with pre existing conditions; and end "surprise billing."

- **“Invest in Ed” initiative! Volunteers are needed to take petitions into your neighborhood, to your organizations, to your friends, for signatures. Sign up here: [https://investined.com/?utm\\_source=google&utm\\_medium=search&utm\\_campaign=2020](https://investined.com/?utm_source=google&utm_medium=search&utm_campaign=2020)**
- **Outlaw Dirty Money** - If you have not yet signed the “outlaw dirty money” petition or helped with it, here’s the place to sign up for that one: <https://outlawdirtymoney.com/>
- **Limit ESA Expansion – Save Our Schools has launched a new initiative to limit ESA expansion. Volunteers needed to help gather signatures. <https://sosarizona.org/volunteer/>**
- **Fair Elections-** Another initiative currently gathering signatures is the Arizona for Fair elections <https://www.facebook.com/azfairelections/>. One section would allow voters to register as late as Election Day, automatically register people to vote when they apply for a driver's license, and allow more time for early voting. The Fair Elections Act also has a section that seeks to weaken the influence of big-money donors and corporation-funded committees in political campaigns.

### Update on Covid-19

I am beginning to believe that the “end game” for the pandemic of 2020 is this: it will fizzle out. Not the virus; the virus will live on, but the shutdown and protective measures will begin to fizzle. Why? Because people are tired of it and need to go back to work (if they still have a job) and are not as afraid as they once were.

The virus, however, will still be with us. Virus are hardly ever completely exterminated but instead live on and this one probably will, too. One scenario is that covid-19 will take its place along with the common cold, flu, cancer, heart disease, and other causes of illness and untimely deaths. It may at times be at the top of the “cause of death” list, but not always. We may have to learn to live with this virus. Even if there is a vaccine, it may be like the flu vaccines – 60 or 70% effective and new shots needed every year as it mutates.

Here’s Arizona’s Re-infection Covid-19 rate (the number of other persons estimated to be infected by each currently infected person). If the rate is greater than one, then the virus is expanding, if the number of less than one, the virus is retracting.

These numbers are found at <https://rt.live/> . There is a problem with these data, in that the analysts are constantly updating all of their figures and making adjustments on the impact of increased testing and newly categorized cases! So, the data in the first report of the infection rate in the AZ Legislative Alert showed Arizona with a steady downward trend, and last week with the trend stopping at .99 but then rising again. This week, the data look like things improved

some and then have worsened after the relaxing of restrictions, which occurred on May 8 and again on May 14.

3/24 – 1.07

3/31 – 1.04

4/7 - 1.00

4/15 – .96

4/22 - .92

4/29 - .90

5/5 - .93

Partial reopening

5/12 - .99

Next step reopening

5/19 - 1.00

5/25 – 1.01

Here are three exceptionally good, scientifically-based analyses that are worth reading. For your convenience, I extracted from them some of the most salient points and you can read that in an earlier AZ Legislative Alert: : <http://files.vuu.org/uujaz/2019/alert-051220.pdf>

**RISKS Know Them, Avoid them.** <https://www.erinbromage.com/post/the-risks-know-them-avoid-them> - Dr. Erin Bromage is an Associate Professor of biology at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth. This article reviews dozens (maybe hundreds) of research studies of how corona 19 spreads.

**All about masks.** <https://www.datamotion.com/category/blog/> - This information is a blog written by Peter Tippett, MD, PhD. Tippett is Chairman of the DataMotion Board of Directors and currently serves as the CEO of careMESH. The blog was originally published on LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/saving-your-health-one-mask-time-peter-tippett-md-phd/>

**R<sub>t</sub> scores State by state: How fast is the virus still spreading?**<sup>1</sup> <https://rt.live/> These are up-to-date values for R<sub>t</sub>, a key measure of how fast the virus is growing. **It's the average number of people who become infected by an infectious person. If R<sub>t</sub> is above 1.0, the virus will spread quickly. When R<sub>t</sub> is below 1.0, the virus will stop spreading.**

Resources: [How to use Request to Speak](#) [How to use Resist.Bot](#) [Contacts](#) [Action](#)

[To see the full digest of bills from the 2020 legislative session, go to the PDF: <http://files.vuu.org/uujaz/2019/alert-040320digest.pdf> ). The House could decide to take up some

<sup>1</sup> <https://techcrunch.com/2020/04/18/instagram-founders-rt-live/>. These data are compiled by Instagram founders Kevin Systrom and Mike Krieger

of their own that were ready for a full vote as an attempt to persuade the Senate to come back into session.

**Why can  $R_t$  be going down when total number of cases testing positive is going up?** Because we are testing more people, and as more people are tested, there will be more positive cases! If we had random samples of people that had been tested, we would know that the population of all people is comprised of

- the number tested positive who are infected and showing symptoms;
- the number tested positive who are asymptomatic (this is estimated to be about xxxx% higher than those with symptoms; and
- the number tested who are negative (this is estimated to be about xxxxx% higher than those with symptoms who tested positive.)

And, from these data, the estimates of how many total people in the population would be positive if everyone were tested.

**Then  $R$  at time 1 is the total number of estimated positives (actual number of people with symptoms testing positive at time 1 plus estimated number asymptomatic who were not tested and number negative who were not tested).  $R$  at time 2 is the same formula. Then,  $R_t$  is the difference between time 1 and time 2. So, if the total number of positives at time 1 is 1,000 and the total number at time 2 (say a week later) is 2000, then the  $R_t$  is 2.0. If the  $R$  at time 2 is 500, then  $R_t$  is .5.**

**Become a Deputy Registrar, help Get Out the Vote 2020 (postponed, but keep this in mind).** If you live in Maricopa County, you can become a “deputy Registrar” and get regular updates on how you can help GOTV (get out the vote) in 2020. Once trained, you will get regular updates on where and when volunteers are needed to help insure that every eligible person is registered and able to vote in 2020. Additional dates are listed as well: [www.tinyurl.com/DRClass20](http://www.tinyurl.com/DRClass20).

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Governor [602-542-4331](tel:602-542-4331) , or [e-mail](#).

Name

Phone Fax

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[Senator Kyrsten Sinema \(D- AZ\)](#) 224-4521 226-4386 [contact@sinema.senate.gov](mailto:contact@sinema.senate.gov)

<a href="#">Rep Tom O'Halleran (D – 01)</a>	225-3361	225-3462	<a href="https://ohalleran.house.gov/contact">https://ohalleran.house.gov/contact</a>
<a href="#">Rep Ann Kirkpatrick (D – 02)</a>	225-2542	225-0378	<a href="https://kirkpatrick.house.gov/contact">https://kirkpatrick.house.gov/contact</a>
<a href="#">Rep Raul M. Grijalva (D – 03)</a>	225-2435	225-1541	<a href="https://grijalva.house.gov/connect-with-raul">https://grijalva.house.gov/connect-with-raul</a>
<a href="#">Rep Paul A. Gosar (R – 04)</a>	225-2315	226-9739	<a href="https://gosar.house.gov/contact-me/email-me">https://gosar.house.gov/contact-me/email-me</a>
<a href="#">Rep Andy Biggs (R – 05)</a>	225-2635	226-4386	<a href="https://biggs.house.gov/contact">https://biggs.house.gov/contact</a>
<a href="#">Rep David Schweikert (R – 06)</a>	225-2190	225-0096	<a href="https://schweikert.house.gov/contact-form">https://schweikert.house.gov/contact-form</a>
<a href="#">Rep Ruben Gallego (D – 07)</a>	225-4065	225-1655	<a href="https://rubengallego.house.gov/contact">https://rubengallego.house.gov/contact</a>
<a href="#">Rep Debbie Lesko (R – 08)</a>	225-4576	225-6328	<a href="https://lesko.house.gov/contact/">https://lesko.house.gov/contact/</a>
<a href="#">Rep Greg Stanton (D – 09)</a>	225-9888	225-9731	<a href="https://stanton.house.gov/contact">https://stanton.house.gov/contact</a>

#### U.S. Senate –

- **Kyrsten Sinema** - 825B&C Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510 Phone: 202-224-4521  
**Phoenix** Phone: 602-598-7327 **Email:** [contact@sinema.senate.gov](mailto:contact@sinema.senate.gov)
- **Martha McSally** \_B40D Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510 Phone: 202-224-2235  
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**Request to Speak** – This is a way to “be heard” at the legislature without being there at all! But, first, you must be signed up. If you have signed up in the past, your old information will still get you in. If not, then go to the capitol, go to the first floor of senate or house buildings, 1700 W. Washington, and use the computer to sign up. There are people there to help you. Then, here’s how to use it there or from your phone or your computer at home:

- Get the # of the bill – You can get it from this newsletter.
- On the azleg.gov site <https://www.azleg.gov/> click on Legislative Information, then on Request to Speak
- Click on “new request” (on the menu on the left)
- Put in the bill #. (or put in name of a committee, and hit “search” to see the committee’s upcoming agenda and choose the bill #)
- You should get a message (scroll down if needed). If it says “no active agenda” then it isn’t before a committee. If you want to register your opinion anyway, click on “my bill positions” (on the menu on the left), and indicate yes or no on the bill.
- If it is before a committee, (scroll down a little to see) it will ask if you actually want to speak at the committee hearing (probably not, just click “no”) and then register for/against and put in your comment if you want.

If you want to review the bill, click on “documents” and review the bill itself or the House or Senate “fact sheet.”

- Use Resistbot to [text your state lawmakers](#)! Text STATE to 50409 to try it out.

**Resistbot.io - How to use it.** Click on the “messages” icon on your I-phone, then click on the pencil in the top right-hand corner. You will get a “To: ” screen. Put in 504-09 and then in the message type “resist.” They will respond and ask for your zip code or address and what you want to do. This is a free service, reportedly developed by volunteers. It will ask for your zip code or address, and then you can send a fax, letter, make a phone call, send an e-mail to Sen. Sinema and McSally and the House member as well or even to Governor Ducey.

I just did it this morning and selected “call.” They called me back connecting me to each Senators office and I left a message for McSally and actually talked to a staff member in Sinema’s office.

After you have sent several, it will ask you which of the various people you want it sent to. At first, it just sends to all three, later it will add state-level elected officials, too. You get more services after you’ve used it awhile!

[Valley Unitarian Universalist Congregation](#) –

Anne L. Schneider, Ph.D. is a member of the Valley Unitarian Universalist Congregation. VUU’s staff includes Senior Minister, Rev. Dr. Andy Burnette; Music Director, Katie Seifert; Director of Faith Formation, Marci Beaudoin, Administrator, Sue Ringler. VUU is located at 6400 W. Del Rio Drive, Chandler, AZ 480 899 4249 VUU holds services at 10:30 to 11:30 on Sunday. Currently, by zoom! E-mail the office to get the zoom [Valley Unitarian Universalist Congregation](#)