

**Statement Regarding the Verdict in the Trial of Derek Chauvin
A. Shuanise Washington**

Yesterday's guilty verdict of former Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin was a step in the right direction toward justice and accountability. As crucial as it is, this verdict is just the beginning of the fight to dismantle the racism embedded in our criminal justice system. More work is needed to eliminate systems of oppression and disparity in equity, equality, and access in our country.

I am encouraged by the dedication of the NAMIC community and its many allies who continue to work toward a more inclusive workplace community. Their commitment to developing and nurturing multicultural leaders, telling diverse stories, and implementing representative programming will help move our nation forward. It's what we have done in the media and entertainment industry for 40 years, and it's more important than ever.

There is tremendous work ahead, and NAMIC will be there every step of the way, advocating for greater diversity, equity, inclusion — and justice — in our communities and our workplaces.