**STATEMENT FROM THE BLACK LIVES MATTER NETWORK ON CHARLESTON SHOOTING**

Charleston's Emanuel A.M.E. church, which is steeped in the incredible history of resistance to slavery [illegible] – now be known as the site of [illegible]. We also keep in our [illegible] loss of [illegible].

We are reminded today that while our attention, attention has focused on increasing state and police violence against Black people, racist vigilante [illegible] legacy. We must face the hard truth that our collective [illegible] reform initiatives it will be safe worshipping at church.

Whether its the murder of four schoolgirls in Birmingham church in 1963, the killing of twelve year old Tamir Rice by Cleveland police officers, [illegible] imprisoned and tortured as a teenager at Rikers Island jail– our communities continue to suffer the many strains of [illegible]. This shooter must come as a small comfort to [illegible] families of those killed, we know we cannot [illegible] commit history of its present.

Therefore, as a movement, we must [illegible] what our President will not say. This was an act of terrorism intended to strike fear into the hearts of Black communities at a time when [illegible] bravely [illegible] together declaring that #BlackLivesMatter everywhere.

We continue to fight for a world that values Black life in the [illegible] and especially those [illegible].

SIGNED,
The Movement for Black Lives Black Lives Team, including:

Ferguson Action
Black Youth Project 100 (BYP 100)
Millennial Boogies Movement for Justice
ColorOfChange.org
Project South
Ohio Students Association
Baltimore United for Change
Leaders of a Beautiful Struggle
Concerned Citizens for Justice

ENDORSED BY:

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