



*"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."  
--The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*

## **We Must Confront Inequities, Work to Change Behaviors**

The American Jail Association (AJA) stands firm in the belief that all people should be treated with dignity and respect. There is no place for injustice in any of our communities.

AJA recognizes the existence of racial disparities in this country, including in our criminal justice system, and acknowledges a systemic failure to address them. As a nation, we must confront these inequities and work together to change the beliefs and behaviors that perpetuate racism. For all lives to matter, we must be able to say Black Lives Matter.

AJA stands with those who are peacefully protesting, and supports those law enforcement officers who uphold the highest standards of professionalism every day. AJA continues to advocate on behalf of jail professionals at the local, state, and national levels, and equality is an important part of our agenda. We are committed to ensuring our members' voices are heard.

AJA also supports the use of empirical data and the removal of bias from the criminal justice system, and is committed to providing those in our nation's jails with the skills and abilities necessary to break the cycle of incarceration.

If we are to enjoy a better tomorrow, we must take the first steps today.

Sincerely,

Marsha P. Travis, CJM  
President  
American Jail Association