Joint Statement on the Convictions in the Murder of Ahmaud Arbery

November 30, 2021

Last week, many of us celebrated the start of the holiday season with food, family and friends. For the family of Ahmaud Arbery, the holiday was undoubtedly bittersweet. One day before Thanksgiving, a nearly all-white jury delivered guilty verdicts against the three men who murdered Ahmaud Arbery, a 25-year old Black man who went jogging near his home.

The convictions represent a minimum level of accountability—a first step—for Black families and other people of color who have lost a loved one to white violence to begin the long journey towards justice. We also recognize the verdicts do not address the root cause of Ahmaud Arbery’s murder and generations of anti-Black violence. That work requires the intentional dismantling of white supremacy in our systems and institutions. It is the same approach we must take to address anti-Asian hate and racism.

As the year ends, the Center for Asian Americans in Action and Asian Americans in Action calls on our communities to learn about the history of racial trauma and resistance that has impacted all communities of color in the U.S., and to reimagine a more equitable future for all.

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The Center for Asian Americans in Action conducts policy analysis, engages in policy advocacy, and strengthens the policy capacity of community organizations to build a more equitable society for Asian Americans in Orange County, CA and beyond. Our sister organization, Asian Americans in Action, is a progressive, nonpartisan organization that seeks to elevate the political voice and impact of the AAPI community in Orange County, CA.