

[Intro Music]

Nina Pullano: Welcome to Sidebar, a new podcast from Courthouse News. I'm Nina Pullano, one of your hosts bringing you the latest legal news from around the nation. This week, we're taking a look back to one year ago when a video circulated the internet, showing a Minneapolis man being held on the ground for nine minutes with a police officer's knee on his neck. That officer, Derek Chauvin, has now been convicted of murdering George Floyd, found guilty on all three counts he was charged with. The United States saw historic protests across the country following Floyd's death and leading up to the Minneapolis trial. For many people, George Floyd became a symbol of the countless Black Americans who've died at the hands of police officers.

Joe Biden: It was a murder in the full light of day, and it ripped the blinders off for the whole world to see of the systemic racism the vice president just referred to. This can be a giant step forward in the march toward justice in America.

Pullano: That's of course President Joe Biden, calling for an end to systemic racism. But what does justice in America look like? Our reporters caught up with civil rights leaders, prosecutors and police officers to answer some of the big questions presented by the Derek Chauvin trial and guilty verdict. First, we're going to hear from a reporter for Courthouse News who was on the ground in Minneapolis throughout the trial. With me now is Andy Monserud. Hi Andy, thanks for joining us.

Monserud: Hi Nina, good to talk to you.

Pullano: You talked to some folks outside the courthouse after the verdict came out. What did they have to say?

Monserud: I think something that was echoed a lot by President Biden and by Keith Ellison, the [Minnesota] attorney general, shortly after the verdict was read that this is a step forward, that it was certainly good news for folks who were opposing police violence against people of color, but that it wasn't justice writ large, that that was not going to return George Floyd. And it was not going to stop systemic racism. There was definitely a sense that this was a victory, but there was still a lot to be done. I talked to one older fellow who'd been in Minneapolis for several decades at this point, and he said, I mean, it's good that they got one, but he'd known many, many people who had died or been seriously irreparably injured by police over his long history of living in the Twin Cities. So there's, it was sort of a muted celebration in that respect, which is not to say that there wasn't, you know, horns honking and people waving flags there. The energy out there was high, but a little bit conflicted.

Pullano: Was there any testimony watching the trial that really stood out to you as a reporter?

Monserud: Darnella Frazier's testimony was frankly difficult to watch I think for a lot of folks, especially talking about losing sleep over Floyd's death, over her sense of guilt that she wasn't able to help him. She filmed obviously the video that went viral and led to protests, riots and ultimately, in Minnesota and federally, some degree of police reform.

Pullano: You also saw testimony from police officers and not on the side of a fellow officer, but actually testifying for the prosecution. Can you talk about that a little bit?

Monserud: Don't want to overplay my hand and say unprecedented, but certainly I can't think of another occasion where it's happened in recent history, at least not on this magnitude. And part of this I think is that the Minneapolis Police Department is in an interesting political situation here right now. It's under a massive civil rights investigation, both on the state and the federal levels. It's facing calls from people in various different groups to defund or to at least reduce or alter the way it works. There is a charter amendment expected to go on the ballot in 2021 pending some final approvals that is basically seen as a first step toward abolition, or at least toward major changes. It would move the police department away from the sole control of the mayor, remove mandatory minimum numbers of staffing. The police department's very existence is very much on the line. And I think they know it in Minneapolis, in Minnesota and nationally, there are quite a lot of hurdles to holding individual police officers accountable for their actions criminally anyway, for their actions in uniform.

Pullano: The idea of police reform, was that a major focus of the trial, would you say?

Monserud: The prosecution very much stated early on that it was not, that they did not want to make this about reform, that this was, I think the phrase that — I believe it was Jerry Blackwell that said it was that police were not on trial here, policing was not on trial. Outside the courtroom there's really no denying it. The death of George Floyd sparked a massive movement for police reform, or rather reignited one that's been going on for years and years.

Pullano: This trial, and this was obviously a historic verdict for the country, but what does it mean for Minneapolis? And can you talk about any changes or activity that you have seen locally?

Monserud: Since really the conclusion of the protests and riots last May and June, there's been obviously quite a lot of calls to defund, abolish, restructure, etc., reform. So that's been one thing. And also, in material fact of it, there's been an enormous reduction of staffing in the police department, by which I mean for the most part officers are still getting paid, but a lot of them are now on leave. Several of them took PTSD leave and I'm talking, you know, hundreds of officers. So, I think the verdict itself has been a little bit less impactful, certainly to a lot of people who were on the ground as activists, because I think a lot of them take the same position that, well, this is frankly dubious justice, even for the one man who was killed when there's not more substantial reforms.

Pullano: Well, a lot of questions about kind of what's to come and what this trial means locally and for the country. Thanks so much for joining us, Andy and laying all that out.

[Sweeping Music]

Pullano: As we continue with this look back to the trial of Derek Chauvin, we have our eyes on the future and what the trial and verdict really mean to achieving justice and fair trials

when charging police officers with violent crimes. Next, we'll hear from reporter Martín Macías, who talked to civil rights advocates about the impact of this verdict.

[Protest Sounds]

Macías: The day that the jury in Derek Chauvin's murder and manslaughter trial was set to read their verdict, Sam Lewis decided to send his staff home.

Lewis: I was in the office when they said that the verdict was going to be read and I had staff here. And so I told my staff, you can all go home early. I didn't want, I thought that if the wrong verdict came out, what I mean by the wrong one, finding of innocent, things could go bad. And so I told my staff they could leave. And I literally felt myself holding my breath when they began to read the verdict.

[Verdict Reading]

Macías: Lewis, who directs the Anti-Recidivism Coalition in California, said he was considering what responses across the region might look like if the jury found the former Minneapolis police officer not guilty of murdering George Floyd last year. But Lewis felt that even a guilty verdict would only represent a small measure of justice and that more is needed to solve police violence in the U.S.

Lewis: This was one instance of justice for George Floyd and his family. And it's not a changing of the system yet. The system has to change.

Macías: Lewis and other civil liberties advocates I spoke to said similar things. Chauvin's guilty verdict is just a step on the longer path to justice. If we as a nation are going to seriously address police violence, they say all officers should be held accountable when they unlawfully kill someone or use excessive force.

Greg Akili: It represents a form of accountability and that can get us to justice because we can't have justice without accountability, but it comes at a heavy price: Black death. And it shouldn't require a Black death for accountability to be a part of the process.

Macías: That's Greg Akili, a member of Los Angeles Black Lives Matter, speaking about the Chauvin verdict. Akili, who also goes by Baba Akili, said BLM is an abolitionist organization and would like to see the removal of police and prisons from communities altogether. But that in the interim, there are critical interventions to be made.

Akili: Sort of abolition on the way to abolition. First, there needs to be accountability, and there are over 640 killings in the last seven years done by law enforcement in Los Angeles and no accountability. With that sends a message that the police are infallible and untouchable. So, what we saw with Derek Chauvin is like playing in a rigged game, and you happen to win one time.

Macías: Accountability has been hard to come by for communities reeling from decades of police violence. Between 2005 and 2015, only 54 officers were charged after fatally

shooting someone. Most were acquitted. In the first four months of this year alone, police fatally shot nearly 300 people, 62 of whom were Black. Data from 2019 show Black and indigenous people were three times more likely than white people to be fatally shot by police. Lewis, the Anti-Recidivism Coalition director, wants civilian oversight of police and legislation bolstering states' ability to decertify officers who are fired for serious misconduct. In the case of Derek Chauvin, Lewis said the former officer should have been fired and stripped of police powers for good after a violent 2017 arrest. That year, Chauvin jammed his knee into a 14-year-old's back for 17 minutes while the teen was handcuffed on the ground. Chauvin is facing a federal grand jury indictment for his actions.

Lewis: Derek Chauvin should not have even been a police officer. When you're charged as a police officer, you need to be held accountable and he should have been decertified the first time and George Floyd would have lived. And so when we look at this justice, this one instance may have been justice for George Floyd, but we still have to change the system. I mean, a 14-year-old boy that went through this with Derek Chauvin should have been the red stop sign for Derek Chauvin to be removed from the police department. George Floyd would have been alive today if leaders had done the right thing back then.

Macías: In California, decertification legislation appears headed towards a potential vote in the Senate. The bill, known as SB 2, also lowers the burden of proof needed to secure wrongful death charges against police officers. California is just one of four states along with Hawaii, New Jersey and Rhode Island, without an official decertification process. At the federal level, advocates are calling for a national registry of de-certified officers, which would prevent them from rejoining the field. Jamil Dakwar, director of the ACLU's Human Rights Program, says Floyd's murder sparked international outrage, but that it also shifted the paradigm on racial justice.

Dakwar: The real issue, as I said, has to be a shift from police institutions to something alternative to policing. Accountability always has to happen but revisit the role of policing in our society and make it less reliant on enforcement and criminalization more broadly. And give it more ability to help people to be able to thrive and build a society that all the rights are respected.

Macías: For Dakwar, systemic change also means reviewing policies on police use of force and on the release of information about officer misconduct or police shootings. This month, the ACLU and other groups around the world asked the United Nations to establish an independent commission on police killings of Black people in the U.S. and to probe the violent response to recent protests.

Dakwar: We have always exempted ourselves from international human rights norms, and we have always preached other countries to these values. And we said we're doing fine, we have our court system, we have our democratic institutions working just fine.

Macías: Jared O'Brien, a Los Angeles-based community organizer with the Youth Justice Coalition, said changing the system is a priority for young people like him who are over policed and want to see public investment in jobs and education.

O'Brien: When you're thinking about young people, thinking about how we could focus on a system of care instead of a system of punishment, how could we break away from the toxic traits of the law enforcement and the way how they deal with things and move toward something more wholesome and more holistic, right? Something that caters to mental health, something that caters to new development.

Macías: Last fall, the coalition and its allies succeeded in a long fight to get LA County leaders to commit to closing probation camps and youth prisons. The groups point to a steady decline over the last 15 years in the number of incarcerated youth in LA County as a major reason why officials should invest in development for youth. The \$75 million plan would shift county resources away from a punitive system and toward one centered on young people's overall health. O'Brien, who goes by the stage name Jaybo or King Jaybo, said young people are currently putting pressure on the county because money for the initiative hasn't been allocated. Advocates point to that and other measures as signs of progress. But even after the recent uprisings, Lewis says he's still unsure Congress and local leaders have the political will to approve strong accountability measures.

Lewis: When you have a nation that has refused to pass an anti-lynching law for, I don't know how long, what makes me think that they would really want to do police reform. Vote the right way because it's the right thing to do, whether you get reelected or not. Because in the end, if you vote against police accountability and you allow us to continue to go forward the way we've been going forward, you're as guilty as the Derek Chauvins of the nation, because you didn't do the right thing. I like to be able to know that my grandson can live to be an old man and never have to worry about a police officer killer.

[Music Transition]

Pullano: Thanks to Martín for that report. Next, we'll hear from reporter Bianca Bruno, who spoke to prosecutors and civil rights attorneys about the significance of convicting Derek Chauvin and the future of policing legislation.

Bruno: Out west in California, unlikely advocates for criminal justice reform and prosecution of police who use excessive force have emerged: prosecutors. San Francisco District Attorney Chesa Boudin is among them. The former public defender turned top law enforcement official in the Golden State's fourth largest city said he considered the charges filed against Derek Chauvin and the trial itself an anomaly.

Boudin: The concern and the risk is that we may learn the wrong lessons from this outcome. We may think that because there was some measure of accountability here that the system works or that we've solved the problem of police impunity in this country. We have not. We've just gotten started.

Bruno: From the public pressure to file charges following weeks of protests, to the chief of police breaking the blue line of silence to testify against Chauvin, there were facts unique to the case Boudin warned may not necessarily lead to more prosecutions of police misconduct.

Boudin: I think the outcome in this case and the high-profile nature of the trial certainly creates political pressure on other elected district attorneys to prosecute police. It also creates political space to do that. It's important the public understand that not every case of police excessive force is criminal and not every case of criminal excessive force will result in a conviction at trial. There are tremendous headwinds and obstacles.

Bruno: Those obstacles, Boudin said, are eliminated through legislation. In California, several bills are currently making their way through the Legislature which will do just that. Assembly Bill 127 would allow prosecutors to obtain arrest warrants for police officers accused of excessive force without relying on a sworn peace officer to sign off. And Senate Bill 710 addresses the conflict-of-interest Boudin said exists when prosecutors accept political and financial support from police unions during their election campaigns.

Boudin: Most district attorneys across the country accept and rely on direct financial contributions from local police unions to get elected. That relationship creates a real, or at least apparent, conflict of interest when an officer or a member of that union gets accused of using excessive or unlawful force. And the district attorney has to make a decision about charging, knowing that the very police union that made their election possible would be the one defending the member in court and in the press. For that reason, I and a number of other elected district attorneys around the state have pledged never to accept direct financial contributions from police unions during our elections or re-elections and had asked the State Bar to issue an ethical ruling that would prohibit other district attorneys from accepting those contributions or be conflicted off of any police use of force case if they do accept them.

Bruno: If it sounds unusual for a group of prosecutors to be pushing for that kind of election campaign reforms, that's because it is. And a group of them created the first-of-its-kind law enforcement association advocating for criminal justice reforms in California. The Prosecutors Alliance includes Boudin and three of his prosecutorial colleagues in California from Contra Costa County, San Joaquin County and Los Angeles. Prosecutors Alliance executive director Cristine Soto DeBerry, a former public defender herself, said she went to work in the San Francisco District Attorney's office after realizing she couldn't help her clients when the first response to crime was jail.

Soto DeBerry: In the broader approach to how we make communities safer, I was really surprised by the kind of knee-jerk response to offer jail for every kind of violation and the inability to have a conversation about what might solve the problem more effectively. So, I left defense work hoping to get involved in policy conversations and other conversations might help inform a better approach to public safety. One that had better results than sending people to jail without a real connection to what it might do for the future of a community and that individual.

Bruno: Soto DeBerry worked as deputy chief of staff to then-San Francisco and current Los Angeles District Attorney George Gascón. She said the idea for the Prosecutors Alliance came out of frustration of their failed attempts to get support for legislative reforms from the California District Attorneys Association.

Soto DeBetty: And for the nine years that I worked with DA Gascón, we were members of the California District Attorneys Association. And in that association, we attempted numerous times to introduce legislative ideas or policy reforms that we thought could advance the work of the profession, and we could not secure their support or engagement. And that to me cried out for a solution. I think there has, for a long time, we know that the expected opposition will come from police unions and from traditional law enforcement associations, but they aren't the only voices in this conversation. And it's important that we disrupt this myth that everybody in law enforcement is opposed to reform and that we claim the mantle as much as they do that there's more than one conversation to be had about how to keep communities safe.

Bruno: While California may be a leader on making progressive reforms to the criminal justice system and prosecuting officers who use excessive force, advocacy at a national level is also making headway. Civil rights attorney Julia Yoo is president of the National Police Accountability Project, a nonprofit arm of the National Lawyers Guild, which helps train civil rights lawyers and advocates on policing reform. The group has seen their efforts succeed in the year following George Floyd's death.

Yoo: So we had huge successes in being a part of the coalition that passed the civil rights bill in New Mexico. And that began really as a result of the public outcry and demand for justice post-George Floyd's death that happened in a purple state. So we know that that is something that can happen.

Bruno: And given the rarity of criminal prosecutions and police excessive force cases, Yoo said the options for seeking justice are limited.

Yoo: There are only really three meaningful ways in which a victim of misconduct or we as a community can seek some sort of redress for a wrong that's happened to a member of our community. One is a criminal prosecution. Two is some sort of a disciplinary process through IA or internal affairs. And third is for the victim or the victim's family to seek redress in civil courts. Those are the only three ways. There is nothing else. We can't bring somebody back. You can't give back somebody's integrity when they are mistreated like this. And as we know, the criminal cases are rare, two the internal affairs processes, particularly in states like California are notoriously secretive. There's no transparency. Also, the victim has no say. It is done entirely by a separate body, and the public doesn't know whether there has been discipline or no discipline. That is extremely rare for the public to find out if an officer has been disciplined at all.

Bruno: But redress for communities can also happen outside the courtroom. Yoo pointed to a recent case handled by her office in San Diego, brought by the family of a man killed the same way George Floyd was. Angel Zapata Hernandez died after a private security guard for the Metropolitan Transit System applied pressure on his head and neck while detaining him at a trolley stop. As part of a settlement reached with the family out of court, MTS and its board made changes to their security policies and training. And that's the kind of progress communities want to see happen, Yoo said.

Yoo: I think we do have somewhat of a model or beginning of a model through what we saw happen with MTS. In one of our cases, it's the Hernandez case where MTS officials instead of hiding or lying or attacking the victim came forward and said that this is unacceptable, and we want to change. And instead of just seeing it, they actually engaged in conversations and dialogue, not just with us, but with our policing experts and with the members of the community, to listen to not just how they conduct business, but how their actions are perceived by the public. I think that's a critical first step.

[Music Transition]

Pullano: On the flip side of prosecutors when police officers face trial are the people defending those officers. Nicholas Iovino, up next, talked to police advocates and officers who want to see changes in their line of work. They discuss Derek Chauvin's trial and police reform more broadly.

Iovino: Federal lawmakers have been debating police reform legislation for the last year, but a recent guilty verdict in the Derek Chauvin trial and the one-year anniversary of George Floyd's death on May 25th have sparked a new sense of urgency to get something passed. Representative Karen Bass is a Los Angeles Democrat and lead sponsor of the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act. Her bill would establish a national police misconduct registry, ban chokeholds and no-knock warrants and make it easier to hold officers civilly and criminally liable for excessive force. The House of Representatives passed the bill in March, but it's been tied up in the Senate since then. Bass spoke about the legislation last month, after a jury found Officer Derek Chauvin guilty of murder in the death of George Floyd. Here's Bass speaking on ABC's "The View."

Bass: I feel very positive that after the energy from this trial and the success of the verdict, that we're going to be able to get this across the finish line and soon.

Iovino: Bass' party remains at odds with Republicans on some key issues, including qualified immunity. That's the legal principle that makes it harder to hold officers civilly liable for using excessive force. Senator Tim Scott, a Republican from South Carolina, says making it easier to sue individual officers is the wrong way to go. He has proposed a compromise in which police departments, not officers, would be financially liable for police misconduct. Here's Scott speaking on CBS's "Face The Nation" in early May.

Scott: If you want communities to be safe, you have to have officers who are not thinking about their personal liability or their assets as they run into harm's way. That is one of the reasons why for qualified immunity I have been for the last year open for putting more of the onus on the municipalities, on the counties, on the state and taking it off of the officers.

Iovino: San Diego Police Officer Brian Marvel has worked in law enforcement for more than 21 years. He currently serves as president of the Peace Officers Research Association of California or PORAC. It's a lobbying and advocacy group for California police officers. Marvel agrees with Tim Scott that eliminating qualified immunity would have a negative

impact on police departments. He says fewer people would sign up to become police officers if they knew they could be sued for their actions on the job.

Marvel: How many people are going to want to come to work and say, if I do everything right today and I get sued, I'm liable to lose my livelihood and the things that I have.

Iovino: Responding to that argument, Bass told NBC4 in Los Angeles that she believes a negative public perception of police resulting from their resistance to reform is a greater threat to recruitment.

Bass: One thing I know for sure is if police around the country resists reforms and do not improve and elevate their profession, then I won't be surprised to see people not want to come into the academy and not want to be police officers. No one wants to be in a profession that everybody has disdain for.

Iovino: Not all officers agree with Marvel's position on qualified immunity. Sgt. Donnell Walters is a 19-year veteran of the St. Louis Police Department. He is also a Black man who supports removing barriers that make it harder to hold officers accountable for misconduct. Reflecting on the recent Derek Chauvin trial, Walters said the guilty verdict in that case is far too rare an occurrence in the American legal system. Especially when the officer is accused of killing a person of color.

Walters: That was like a pebble in the ocean. You know, hey, we saw justice, the judicial system worked, but we should see it all the time.

Iovino: Walters is president of the Ethical Society of Police, a group of officers who advocate for police reform. Walters supports outlawing chokeholds; a proposal Marvel disagrees with even though his own state of California banned police chokeholds last year. Marvel says maneuvers like the carotid restraint, when applied properly, allow officers to quickly subdue a suspect and avoid a prolonged struggle that could end in deadly force. While they disagree on chokeholds, both Walters and Marvel support the creation of a national police misconduct registry. The intent is to provide a database that will let police departments check the candidate's record and prevent bad officers from jumping from one agency to another.

Walters: Now we'll keep officers from what we call here in St. Louis 'muni-hopping,' where they'll go from one municipality to another, but hey, that'll keep that agency-hopping from going on. That'll stop it.

Iovino: Walters and Marvel also agree that all police officers should wear body cameras. Marvel says body cameras have exonerated officers in many cases where complaints against them were unjustified, but he thinks Congress should step up with more funding for smaller police departments to purchase and maintain the equipment.

Marvel: I think the best way that the federal government could come in and support states by implementing body worn cameras is through grants and making sure that the agencies that most need the money to get the body camera programs up and running get it.

lovino: Marvel and Walters also agree that police departments should not be defunded as some activists have called for. They want more resources to help departments increase officer diversity and provide better training. Walters says he also wants lawmakers to not just listen to traditional police unions, but to groups like his that represent minority police officers. Marvel added that officers must also keep having frank discussions with reform advocates about ways to improve policing, no matter how tough those exchanges may be.

Marvel: I'll admit I've been in several difficult conversations with some activists, but sometimes we have to have those. If you want to improve your profession and what you're doing, you have to have these conversations, but let's have them, let's be civil about them, and let's try to make it better for everybody.

lovino: President Joe Biden set a deadline of May 25 to get federal police reform legislation passed. At the time of this recording, the Senate had yet to act on the bill.

[Pulsing Music]

Pullano: Thanks Nicholas. The major players, when it comes to police officer trials, prosecutors, activists and officers themselves, give us a glimpse of where we might go from here. We heard earlier that the Derek Chauvin trial did not center on police reform but rather than the lack of compliance with existing protocols. But that may change in the upcoming trials of the three other officers on duty with Chauvin when George Floyd was killed. Those former police officers are J. Alexander Keung, Thomas Lane and Tou Thao. They'll be prosecuted together at the state level in a trial set to begin in March of next year. Each of them faces two counts of aiding and abetting, one for second-degree murder and the other for second-degree manslaughter. Andy Monserud, the reporter who joined us earlier, said that an attorney for Thomas Lane has been arguing that even though duty to intervene laws were enacted in Minneapolis in 2016, they were never really enforced.

Monserud: I think we will see that more in certainly recent hearings in the Thao, Keung and Lane trial have suggested that there's going to be at least some conversation about the actual practices of the Minneapolis Police Department over many, many decades, and whether or not those officers' conduct aligned with that, the duty to intervene is a big one.

Pullano: The officers also face federal charges. The remaining trials could take months or even years. In the meantime, the Minneapolis Police Department faces investigations at both the state and federal levels too. Minneapolis has already been transformed by the death of George Floyd. One symbol of that is the block that captured the country's attention last year when footage of the street went viral. In the days and months that followed, the space became a center for protests as well as a memorial. It's now known as George Floyd Square. It's been closed to traffic for more than a year.

Monserud: George Floyd Square has remained barricaded by folks there. It has become, and was really from the beginning, a sight of a lot of murals and flowers. And there's a very large bronze fist that actually sits in the middle of the intersection.

Pullano: Andy said the space has at times looked almost like a community party with live music and free food, but it's also been the site of several shootings and at least one homicide, which have driven tensions about what should happen with the area.

Monserud: It's heavily contested by its neighbors, as well as some folks who are certainly on board with it and very much in favor. There are a lot of folks who are worried about those shootings or about just not being able to drive through what was previously a pretty busy intersection. And, of course, there were businesses there. There's a Speedway gas station that has been out of business since the beginning of the protests and they have already sued the city for loss of use, so there's other factors. A lot of the local businesses nearby have been largely supportive of George Floyd Square, even there's even sort of a tense, but at this point, I think stable relationship between the people operating it and the people and the owners of Cup Foods, which is you might remember the place where George Floyd allegedly passed a counterfeit bill leading to his arrest. For a while they were, I think, not able to open because there was pretty strong opposition to it, but I think they're now doing business. So it's a contested space within that very small group environment.

Pullano: Minneapolis Mayor Jacob Frey had promised to reopen George Floyd Square to traffic as soon as the verdict came in Chauvin's trial. But after fierce opposition from advocates who didn't want to see a memorial destroyed, that hasn't happened and it likely won't happen without a fight. What happens in George Floyd Square is intertwined with the role the police officers play in our society and how that role needs to be reformed. Here's civil rights attorney, Julia Yoo, again.

Yoo: I think we, as a community, need to call for more transparency and honesty. I think body cams have been such a blessing in so many different communities. And I think that releasing of the body cams is critical. We need to know the truth if we want to have an honest dialogue and have meaningful reform.

Pullano: A year since George Floyd was killed, that dialogue is set to continue as we head into the summer of 2021. This has been a special edition of Sidebar, a new podcast from Courthouse News. You can find our show notes and more of Andy's reporting from the Chauvin trial at www.courthousenews.com. I'm Nina Pullano, and we'll be back soon. Thanks for tuning in.

[Outro Music]