

Dear Penn State Law and SIA Community:

I write to share my grief with others over the [mass shootings](#) in Uvalde, Texas, taking the lives of 19 children and two teachers. Uvalde is a border town with a predominantly Latino population. Today, the Department of Homeland Security issued a [statement](#), consistent with their policy on “protected areas” to avoid immigration enforcement in Uvalde to ensure that individuals and families are able to seek assistance without fear.

The travesty in Uvalde falls on the heels of [mass shootings](#) at a supermarket in a predominantly Black neighborhood in Buffalo, New York, and at a Taiwanese church in Laguna Woods, California.

Today also marks the [two-year anniversary](#) of George Floyd’s murder, an event which sparked a national and international conversation and reckoning about racial justice.

The Penn State Law and SIA community is not immune from the impact of these events, which also highlight the important role lawyers and policymakers play in advancing racial equity, reform and the rule of law.

Penn State has resources available for students, faculty and staff.

- Penn State [CAPS](#)
- [Paul Robeson Cultural Center](#)
- [Penn State Employee Assistance Program](#)

Sincerely,

Shoba/Dean Wadhia