



A makeshift memorial seen on June 1, 2020, in Minneapolis, Minn., honors George Floyd at the spot where he was taken into custody and died. LUCAS JACKSON/REUTERS FILE

Change since Floyd's death slow to come

Four years after killing, major police reform hasn't happened

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REUTERS

Stevante Clark felt a glimmer of hope when racial justice protests swept the globe in 2020 after the police killing of George Floyd. His own brother, Stephon Clark, was killed by Sacramento police in March 2018 after they fired 20 shots at the young Black man in the backyard of his grandparents' home. Police said they feared he had a gun. But he was found to have been holding only a cell-phone.

The 22-year-old's death sparked protests and calls for reform. It also led to a new more stringent use-of-force law in California. Yet, no comprehen-



The George Floyd Justice in Policing Act – which was initially introduced in 2021 to stop aggressive law enforcement tactics, misconduct and racial bias – has faced repeated roadblocks in Congress and has yet to move forward. NACHO DOCE/REUTERS FILE

sive change emerged on a national level.

So, Clark thought Floyd's killing and those of several other Black Americans by police in 2020 would finally deliver the substantive criminal justice reform that he and others have sought for years.

But while Floyd's death became a rallying cry for racial equity and justice, four years later the journey toward comprehensive policing reform has been fraught with challenges. Momentum has waned and legislative efforts have stalled, leaving communities, advocates, and families who have lost

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