To: UVM Community

From: Tom Sullivan, President
Wanda Heading-Grant, Vice President for Human Resources, Diversity, and Multicultural Affairs

Re: Recent Events

We are writing to acknowledge the tragic and deeply troubling events of last week in Baton Rouge, St. Paul, and Dallas. These events sadden all of us. In addition to destroying lives, they undermine confidence in the condition of the civil and just society we desire.

As a vibrant educational community, we know we have an important responsibility to elevate and advance our commitment to Respect, Integrity, Innovation, Openness, Justice, and Responsibility, as reflected in our University’s Our Common Ground. The UVM Community, together, has an important role to play as we discuss and seek to understand the difficult challenges that face us and our nation.

As we communicated last November, “Despite our best collective efforts, the mounting tally of incidents demonstrates the need to take a harder look; to re-examine and redouble our efforts; to remain vigilant; to engage more people; and to raise our voices to denounce these incidents whenever and wherever they happen.”