

## ***2b- How George Floyd Was Killed in Police Custody***

The Times has reconstructed the death of George Floyd on May 25. Security footage, witness videos and official documents show how a series of actions by officers turned fatal.

On May 25, [Minneapolis police](#) officers arrested [George Floyd](#), a 46-year-old black man, after a convenience store employee called 911 and told the police that Mr. Floyd had bought cigarettes with a counterfeit \$20 bill. Seventeen minutes after the first squad car arrived at the scene, Mr. [Floyd](#) was unconscious and pinned beneath three police officers, showing no signs of life.

By combining videos from bystanders and security cameras, reviewing official documents and consulting experts, The New York Times reconstructed in detail the minutes leading to Mr. [Floyd's death](#). Our video shows officers taking a series of actions that violated the policies of the Minneapolis Police Department and turned fatal, leaving Mr. Floyd unable to breathe, even as he and onlookers called out for help.

The day after [Mr. Floyd's death](#), the Police Department fired all four of the officers involved in the episode. On May 29, the Hennepin County attorney, Mike Freeman, announced third-degree murder and second-degree manslaughter charges against [Derek Chauvin](#), the officer seen most clearly in [witness videos](#) pinning Mr. Floyd to the ground. Mr. [Chauvin](#), who is white, kept his knee on Mr. Floyd's neck for at least eight minutes and 15 seconds, according to a Times analysis of timestamped video. Our video investigation shows that Mr. Chauvin did not remove his knee even after Mr. [Floyd](#) lost consciousness and for a full minute and 20 seconds after paramedics arrived at the scene.

New York Times By [Evan Hill](#), [Ainara Tiefenthäler](#), [Christiaan Triebert](#), [Drew Jordan](#), [Haley Willis](#) and [Robin Stein](#) -Published May 31, 2020 Updated Jan. 24, 2022