The Los Angeles Clippers pay tribute to the Black Lives Matter movement prior to their NBA first round playoff game against the Dallas Mavericks. Al Ashley Landis/Defender

NBA takes action

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Playing basketball in the Orlando bubble just seemed empty for many NBA players that day. Stills said, “I thought we were doing a good job but when you watch the Milwaukee Bucks do what they did to Breonna Taylor, don’t think that will be the end of it. They’re going to come back and continue to use our arenas and our platform to be able to understand that we need to make a change with what’s going on with police brutality and injustice Black people face in this country. Stills recently talked about the Kershaw-Blake case and how that situation needs to change. Here is some of what he had to say.

Defender: What were your takeaways from the experience of being arrested in Louisville?

Kenny Stills: “We went to Louisville to bring more attention to the Breonna Taylor case. We’ve tried to do everything we can to get in game to see what the players are doing in the bubble. We’ve been there to bring more attention to this case and we hope that something can be done. We want the officers to be arrested, fired and prosecuted for what they did to Breonna Taylor.”

Terrance Harris

Texans wide receiver Kenny Stills has easily become the face of active NFL players in the movement against police brutality and injustice toward Black people.

When Stills was a member of the Miami Dolphins he began joining Colin Kaepernick in taking a knee during the playing of the national anthem as a form of protest. The 28-year-old veteran has continued to be active in the movement, even when his teammates arrested in Louisville when they marched to the home of Kentucky Attorney General Daniel Cameron to demand action against the police officers who shot and killed Breonna Taylor in her home in March.

The charges were dropped a couple of days later. Still, Stills feels senseless shootings like the one that took place in Louisville are unacceptable.

Stills, last month when Jacob Blake was shot seven times in the back by a police officer, don’t think that will be the end of this fight against the injustices Black people face in this country. Stills recently talked about the Kershaw-Blake case and how that situation needs to change. Here is some of what he had to say.

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Defender: What was your reaction to the latest police brutality incident with Jacob Blake in the context of everything that has happened this year?

Stills: “Yeah, I think it further proves the point that we need to make a change with what’s going on with our law enforcement. We have another unarmed Black man being shot seven times in front of his children. I think there’s other ways to deescalate these situations and just another horrible example of what our law enforcement is doing to our people.”

Defender: What were your conversations like with Reggie Goodall, and what do you think about Colin Kaepernick about kneeling?

Stills: “Honestly, I don’t really have too many thoughts about it. He can say whatever he wants to say. For us to be able to pause and say whatever we want to say, that has become the mission of Westbrook and the Milwaukee Bucks. They shared with Roger Goodell, and what do you think about them saying they won’t just shut up and play. They are speaking up and speaking back against racial injustice and police brutality that seems to be unfairly affecting Black people in this country.”

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