



GENERAL HEADQUARTERS

## Sons of Confederate Veterans

*"Historic Elm Springs"*

14 August 2017

Compatriots,

As an organization we are still trying to wrap our heads around the events that occurred in Charlottesville, VA over the weekend. While it is of yet unclear to us exactly who the individuals and organizations were that were involved, the one thing that is absolutely certain is that the Sons of Confederate Veterans had no connection to this event.

From all appearances there seems to have been multiple groups of antagonists who showed up with helmets, shields and clubs which serves as evidence that they fully expected a violent confrontation. In addition to this, it seems that the city's authorities stood idly by and allowed the situation to get out of hand until it was too late. Where is the logic in any of this, and precisely what did it accomplish? As could have easily been expected, the outcome had tragic consequences and the SCV deplors the violence and loss of life that resulted from such emotionally-charged, irrational and calamitous circumstances.

The Sons of Confederate Veterans organization was given the charge by the Veterans themselves to carry on the legacy of our forebears- to vindicate the Cause, defend the Confederate soldier's good name, to guard his history, emulate his virtues, and to perpetuate those principles which he loved. This mission was handed to us, the Sons, by the Confederate soldiers themselves in 1896. No other group can legitimately make this claim and no other group or individual has any just authority to define, re-define or represent the true Cause and history of the Confederate soldier.

Robert E. Lee said "I pray that, on this day when only peace and good-will are preached to mankind, better thoughts may fill the hearts of our enemies and turn them to peace." In this spirit we denounce the hatred being leveled against our glorious ancestors by radical leftists who seek to erase our history, and we will continue to fight these battles in court or by any and all other lawful and peaceful means. We likewise mourn the loss of life and repudiate in the strongest terms attempts by any group that advocates hatred, bigotry or violence towards others to use our symbols, or otherwise undertake to tarnish the good and glorious name of the Confederate soldier.

Carl V. Jones II  
Chief of Heritage Operations  
Sons of Confederate Veterans