

REMARKS OF JOHN A. KELLEY BEFORE THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY 07 AND 08 NOVEMBER 2022; NO ORGANIZATION TITLE – I AM A U. S. ARMY VETERAN, AMERICAN CITIZEN, AND RETIRED MEMBER OF THE FEDERAL SES; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] DAYTIME TELEPHONE: [REDACTED]

07 AND 08 NOVEMBER 2022

Written Remarks Before the Advisory Committee On Arlington National Cemetery

By John A. Kelley

U. S. Army Veteran,

American Citizen, and

Retired Member of the Federal SES

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Good afternoon to all. Thank you for allowing me to submit written comments to the Committee. I represent only myself and do not speak for any organizations. I speak against the proposed eligibility standards for the following reasons.

- A. The fiscal year 2019 National Defense Authorization Act directed the Secretary of the Army establish revised eligibility criteria to keep Arlington National Cemetery functional as an active burial ground well into the future. I do not believe that Congressional or your intent is to take away an obligation the nation made to our existing Veterans and members of the armed forces which is what the proposed rule accomplishes. The draft standards (a) 2-year active duty, and (b) war zone requirements apply to all. It should be removed and not apply to any personnel.
- B. There are many Veterans besides me; however, some of them probably do not realize the Federal Register is the official method of issuing changes to the Code of Federal Regulations. Therefore, they never read it; many of them have never heard of it! And, as a result, they do not realize the adverse action of this proposal.

You are the people speaking for them and looking out for their rights. Please do so in this instance because, under the proposed criteria mentioned above, many proud Veterans will not be eligible to rest in Arlington National Cemetery either by burial or inurnment. The new rules should not take away a right already earned by these brave souls.

- C. I point out to you that in the early 1970's, Congress directed a significantly large armed services drawdown. All first-time enlistees and all draftees were part of this action, no

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[REDACTED] DAYTIME TELEPHONE: [REDACTED]

exceptions, and the military provided all with honorable discharges. Many of them served honorably for less than 2 years and many did not serve in a war zone. However, they served as ordered by their military superiors.

These women and men served in whatever capacity they were ordered by their military superiors, and that service is just as important as the service of those in a war zone because (1) the support provided by them is critical to success in the war zone, and (2) the military is the first line of defense for America against enemies that would attempt to destroy this great country. Without this non-war-zone support, America would fail.

- D. I oppose the change because it removes existing Veterans who have at least 1 (one) day of honorable service, to replace them with future Veterans, many of whom are not even born yet, by changing the eligibility requirements to 2 (two) full years on active duty. Capacity at Arlington National Cemetery must extend well into the future; however, not at the expense of existing Veterans and current members of the armed forces. These brave individuals served or are serving honorably in the positions ordered.

I have been eligible since birth to have my remains rest in Arlington National Cemetery because my farther died on active duty in Germany. When that eligibility expired due to my age, I became eligible from my own active duty in the army. Now, at age 76, I would be told “NO” under the new criteria. I do not know how many people like me exist that will be dropped to make room for others — some not even born yet! I suspect your group may not know either but do you truly and genuinely want to make that type of change?

The Secretary of the Army and this Committee must develop another solution to comply with the directions in the National Defense Authorization Act. Additionally, Congress should consider changing and making clear their directions. When Arlington National Cemetery fills to capacity with members of the armed forces as well as past, current, or future Veterans, authorized relatives, and civilians, it will only be open for people visiting the eternal resting place of relatives and friends as well as tourists because of the many memorials, famous graves, and monuments for them to see. Whether Arlington National Cemetery fills in 150 or 50 years is not as important as keeping the nation’s obligations to Veterans and members of the armed forces because they are America’s first line of defense.

- E. America has an ethical and moral obligation to stand by the conditions under which these brave women and men served this great nation. It should not annul or withdraw that obligation to these valiant, courageous Veterans in favor of future Veterans, again, many of whom have not been born. Basic training and advanced individual training instructors on many occasions, in fact almost daily, told us by completing our tour of duty honorably, either dead or alive, we could be buried in Arlington National Cemetery. They told this to

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[REDACTED] DAYTIME TELEPHONE: [REDACTED]

everyone as part of our training to help build esprit de corps. This action created a binding contractual obligation between America and us.

- F. Accordingly, it is totally and unequivocally paramount to maintain the present policy for women and men that are now serving or have an honorable discharge. The Secretary of the Army should lobby Congress for an ANC Annex with the current eligibility standards instead of pushing on with this proposal. I hope you will support this position by revising the current proposal as discussed earlier so it complies with the intent of the National Defense Authorization Act already mentioned.
- G. Mr. Charles Alexander, Jr, the current Superintendent of Arlington National Cemetery, personally informed me there are about 300 Veterans Affairs and State Cemeteries. An annex concept could be a possible means of expanding Arlington National Cemetery to other areas. An annex or auxiliary for Arlington National Cemetery, for example Quantico Cemetery with the same eligibility standards as Arlington National Cemetery, in different locations might be a viable alternative. I also believe that all of you with your experience and knowledge have other suggestions. But, whatever you do, it is crucial and essential to fulfill this country's promise and commitment to these brave Veterans and current member of the armed forces who unquestionably and valiantly served and are serving to protect America's freedom.
- H. I am available to discuss these issues by contacting me on the telephone number on each page of this statement. Additionally, I can volunteer my time to work with Arlington National Cemetery to help find other solutions because I have several years of experience solving major problems and revamping diverse programs at the Senior Executive Service Level in 2 (two) Executive Agencies of the Federal Government.
- I. Finally, this country is a great republic, and the citizens usually make good decisions. This issue, as drafted, is not one of them because it adversely impacts the nation's existing obligations and contractual commitments. Before you ask what is fair for future Veterans and Arlington National Cemetery, you should ask what is fair to our Veterans, their families, and armed forces members.

Again, thank you for including my written comments in the minutes of this meeting. Also, thank you for your service to this great nation and keep up the good work. God Bless You and America.

End of Presentation

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL
CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: *Robert and Natalie Floyd*

TITLE / AFFILIATION: *Private Citizens*

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED] / [REDACTED]

We, Robert and Natalie Floyd, are submitting this statement because we frequently visit Arlington National Cemetery with are daughter because we want her to be proud of her American history and because we have loved ones interned at Arlington as well. We are deeply opposed to the Naming Commission's shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. We are equally distressed by the lack of public participation throughout this process and the short notice provided to the public in advance of the meeting March 15th, which ignores the 15-day notice required by law.

We are patriots who believes **ALL** men are created equal and **racism and racial inequality have no place in the United States of America.** Removing memorials to Civil War dead—North or South—is disrespectful and tantamount to erasing history.

Arlington National Cemetery is unquestionably our Nation's most Sacred Shrine. Arlington's example should be one of inclusion and education, not exclusion and destruction of public art. The Civil War was the most tragic moment in our Nation's history. We owe it to posterity to educate our youth and the future why these memorials were erected. **Leave the monument where it stands, and educate our children why it was erected—as a symbol of eternal reconciliation.**

We offer these thoughts to you as citizens whose soul aim is to make our Nation a great place to live for the current and future generations. We are offended and outraged by the recommendation to remove Moses Ezekiel's Reconciliation Memorial, and I ask the Cemetery Advisory Committee to do all in its power to reject all efforts to remove this work of public art.

Very respectfully,

Robert & Natalie Floyd

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, March 8, 2023 8:27 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA) [REDACTED]
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: *William L Shumate*

TITLE / AFFILIATION: *Private Citizen*

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I, William Shumate, am submitting this statement because my family and I are deeply opposed to the Naming Commission's shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I am equally distressed by the lack of public participation throughout this process and the short notice provided to the public, which did not include the mandatory 15-day notice as required by law ahead of the March 15th meeting.

I am a patriot who believes **ALL** men are created equal and *racism and racial inequality have no place in the United States of America*. Removing memorials to Civil War dead—North and South—is disrespectful and tantamount to erasing history.

Arlington National Cemetery is unquestionably our Nation's most Sacred Shrine. Arlington's example should be one of inclusion and education, not exclusion and destruction of public art. The Civil War was the most tragic moment in our Nation's history. We owe it to posterity to educate our youth and the future why these memorials were erected. **Leave the monument where it stands, and educate our children why it was erected—as a symbol of eternal reconciliation.**

I offer these thoughts to you as a citizen whose soul aim is to make our Nation a great place to live for the current and future generations. My family and I are offended and outraged by the recommendation to remove Moses Ezekiel's Reconciliation Memorial, and I ask the Cemetery Advisory Committee to do all in its power to reject all efforts to remove this work of public art.

Very respectfully,

William L Shumate

From: Bill Hall [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, March 8, 2023 10:26 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA) [REDACTED]
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery

William Hall
Sons of Confederate Veterans member

[REDACTED]

I, William Hall, am submitting this statement because my family and I are deeply opposed to the Naming Commission's shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I am equally distressed by the lack of public participation throughout this process and the short notice provided to the public, which did not include the mandatory 15-day notice as required by law ahead of the March 15th meeting.

I am a patriot who believes **ALL** men are created equal and *racism and racial inequality have no place in the United States of America.* Removing memorials to Civil War dead—North and South—is disrespectful and tantamount to erasing history.

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I offer these thoughts to you as a citizen whose sole aim is to make our Nation a great place to live for the current and future generations. My family and I are offended and outraged by the recommendation to remove Moses Ezekiel's Reconciliation Memorial, and I ask the Cemetery Advisory Committee to do all in its power to reject all efforts to remove this work of public art.

Very respectfully,
William Hall

From: Jan Toalson [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, March 8, 2023 6:59 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA) [REDACTED]
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Removal of the Reconciliation Memorial - Opposition

Cemetery Advisory Committee -

I oppose the Naming Commission's recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Monument. It is also a little disturbing the very short notice for the March 15 meeting.

Removing memorials to Civil War dead - North and South - is disrespectful and is the erasure of our collective history.

Arlington National Cemetery is one of our nation's most sacred shrines. The Civil War was one of the most tragic moments in our national history. Leave the monument where it stands to educate future generations about the war, why this statue was erected and that is was a symbol of reconciliation between our peoples.

I ask the Cemetery Advisory Committe to do all in your power to reject all efforts to remove this magnificent work of public art that was commissioned to symbolize reconciliation as our reunited nation moved forward.

Please do not erase history.

Yours,

Jeff Toalson - Citizen

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL
CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: SAMUEL J. DOSS

TITLE / AFFILIATION: Clinton Hatcher Camp, SCV; American Legion Post 34; Veterans of
Foreign Wars Post 1177; CPT (Ret.), US Army Reserve.

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I, SAMUEL J. DOSS, am submitting this statement because my family and I are deeply opposed to the Naming Commission's shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I am equally distressed by the lack of public participation throughout this process and the short notice provided to the public, which did not include the mandatory 15-day notice as required by law ahead of the March 15th meeting.

I am a patriot who believes **ALL** men are created equal and **racism and racial inequality have no place in the United States of America.** Removing memorials to Civil War dead—North and South—is disrespectful and tantamount to erasing history.

Arlington National Cemetery is unquestionably our Nation's most Sacred Shrine. Arlington's example should be one of inclusion and education, not exclusion and destruction of public art. The Civil War was the most tragic moment in our Nation's history. We owe it to posterity to educate our youth and the future why these memorials were erected. **Leave the monument where it stands, and educate our children why it was erected—as a symbol of eternal reconciliation.**

I offer these thoughts to you as a citizen whose soul aim is to make our Nation a great place to live for the current and future generations. My family and I are offended and outraged by the recommendation to remove Moses Ezekiel's Reconciliation Memorial, and I ask the Cemetery Advisory Committee to do all in its power to reject all efforts to remove this work of public art.

Very respectfully,

SAMUEL DOSS

SAMUEL J. DOSS

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL
CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: *LUKE WATERS*

TITLE / AFFILIATION: *William and Mary Student*

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I, Luke Waters, am submitting this statement because my family and I are deeply opposed to the Naming Commission's shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I am equally distressed by the lack of public participation throughout this process and the short notice provided to the public, which did not include the mandatory 15-day notice as required by law ahead of the March 15^h meeting.

I am a patriot who believes **ALL** men are created equal and *racism and racial inequality have no place in the United States of America.* Removing memorials to Civil War dead—North and South—is disrespectful and tantamount to erasing history.

Arlington National Cemetery is unquestionably our Nation's most Sacred Shrine. Arlington's example should be one of inclusion and education, not exclusion and destruction of public art. The Civil War was the most tragic moment in our Nation's history. We owe it to posterity to educate our youth and the future why these memorials were erected. **Leave the monument where it stands, and educate our children why it was erected—as a symbol of eternal reconciliation.**

I offer these thoughts to you as a citizen whose soul aim is to make our Nation a great place to live for the current and future generations. My family and I are offended and outraged by the recommendation to remove Moses Ezekiel's Reconciliation Memorial, and I ask the Cemetery Advisory Committee to do all in its power to reject all efforts to remove this work of public art.

Very respectfully,
Luke Waters

From: Dennis Fink [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 7, 2023 9:35 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA) [REDACTED]
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Arlington Cemetery

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

Dennis Fink

Private *Citizens & a grandson of a Confederate Veteran*

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I, Dennis Fink, am submitting this statement because my family and I are deeply opposed to the Naming Commission's shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I am equally distressed by the lack of public participation throughout this process and the short notice provided to the public, which did not include the mandatory 15-day notice as required by law ahead of the March 15th meeting.

I am a patriot who believes **ALL** men are created equal and *racism and racial inequality have no place in the United States of America.* Removing memorials to Civil War dead—North and South—is disrespectful and tantamount to erasing history.

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I offer these thoughts to you as a citizen whose soul aim is to make our Nation a great place to live for the current and future generations. My family and I are offended and outraged by the recommendation to remove Moses Ezekiel's Reconciliation Memorial, and I ask the Cemetery Advisory Committee to do all in its power to reject all efforts to remove this work of public art.

Very respectfully,

Dennis Fink

From: Bill Sullivan [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 7, 2023 8:38 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA) [REDACTED]
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: William D Sullivan
TITLE / AFFILIATION: Army Veteran, Private Citizen and Proud Member of *the* SCV.
ADDRESS: [REDACTED]
DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I, William D. Sullivan, am submitting this statement because my family and I are deeply opposed to the Naming Commission's shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I am equally distressed by the lack of public participation throughout this process and the short notice provided to the public, which did not include the mandatory 15-day notice as required by law ahead of the March 15th meeting.

I am a patriot who believes **ALL** men are created equal and *racism and racial inequality have no place in the United States of America.* Removing memorials to Civil War dead—North and South—is disrespectful and tantamount to erasing history.

Arlington National Cemetery is unquestionably our Nation's most Sacred Shrine. Arlington's example should be one of inclusion and education, not exclusion and destruction of public art or history. The Civil War was the most tragic moment in our Nation's history. We owe it to posterity to educate our youth and the future why these memorials were erected. ***Leave the monument where it stands, and educate our children why it was erected—as a symbol of eternal reconciliation.***

I offer these thoughts to you as a citizen and veteran whose soul aim is to make our Nation a great place to live for the current and future generations. My family and I are offended and outraged by the recommendation to remove Moses Ezekiel's

Reconciliation Memorial, and I ask the Cemetery Advisory Committee to do all in its power to reject all efforts to remove this work of public art.

Very respectfully,
William D. Sullivan

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL
CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: Edmund B. Alexander

TITLE / AFFILIATION: Private Citizen

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I, Edmund B. Alexander, am submitting this statement because my family and I are deeply opposed to the Naming Commission's shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I am equally distressed by the lack of public participation throughout this process and the short notice provided to the public, which did not include the mandatory 15-day notice as required by law ahead of the March 15th meeting.

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Very respectfully,
Edmund B. Alexander

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL
CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: *Kenneth Bage*

TITLE / AFFILIATION: *Private Citizens, Retired Police Officer*

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I, Kenneth Bage, am submitting this statement because my family and I are deeply opposed to the Naming Commission's shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I am equally distressed by the lack of public participation throughout this process and the short notice provided to the public, which did not include the mandatory 15-day notice as required by law ahead of the March 15th meeting.

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I offer these thoughts to you as a citizen whose soul aim is to make our Nation a great place to live for the current and future generations. My family and I are offended and outraged by the recommendation to remove Moses Ezekiel's Reconciliation Memorial, and I ask the Cemetery Advisory Committee to do all in its power to reject all efforts to remove this work of public art.

Very respectfully,

Kenneth Bage

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL
CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: Robert E. Vaughan Jr.

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I Robert Vaughan, am submitting this statement because my family and I are deeply opposed to the Naming Commission's shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I am equally distressed by the lack of public participation throughout this process and the short notice provided to the public, which did not include the mandatory 15-day notice as required by law ahead of the March 15^h meeting.

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Very respectfully,
Robert E. Vaughan Jr.

From: Bill D [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 7, 2023 8:09 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA) [REDACTED]
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: William Drumright III
TITLE / AFFILIATION: Private Citizen and former service member.
ADDRESS: [REDACTED]
DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I, William Drumright III, am submitting this statement because my family and I are deeply opposed to the Naming Commission's shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I am equally distressed by the lack of public participation throughout this process and the short notice provided to the public, which did not include the mandatory 15-day notice as required by law ahead of the March 15th meeting.

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I offer these thoughts to you as a citizen whose soul aim is to make our Nation a great place to live for the current and future generations. My family and I are offended and outraged by the recommendation to remove Moses Ezekiel's Reconciliation Memorial, and I ask the Cemetery Advisory Committee to do all in its power to reject all efforts to remove this work of public art.

Very respectfully,
William Drumright III

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STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL
CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: Ronald L. Hudson

TITLE / AFFILIATION: private citizen

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I, Ronald L. Hudson, am submitting this statement because my family and I are deeply opposed to the Naming Commission's shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I am equally distressed by the lack of public participation throughout this process and the short notice provided to the public, which did not include the mandatory 15-day notice as required by law ahead of the March 15th meeting.

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Very respectfully,

Ronald L. Hudson

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL
CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: *Dennis Gayness*

TITLE / AFFILIATION: *President, Virginia Innovations, Inc.*

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I, Dennis Gayness, am submitting this statement because my family and I are deeply opposed to the Naming Commission's shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I am equally distressed by the lack of public participation throughout this process and the short notice provided to the public, which did not include the mandatory 15-day notice as required by law ahead of the March 15th meeting.

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Very respectfully,
Dennis Gayness

From: Michael A. Mastronardi [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 7, 2023 7:06 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA) [REDACTED]
Subject: [EEMSG-SPAM: Suspect] [Non-DoD Source] OPPOSITION TO REMOVAL OF ARLINGTON RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: *MICHAEL A MASTRONARDI*
TITLE / AFFILIATION: *Private Citizen, U.S. Army Veteran*
ADDRESS: [REDACTED]
DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I, Michael A Mastronardi, am submitting this statement because my family and I are deeply opposed to the Naming Commission's shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I am equally distressed by the lack of public participation throughout this process and the short notice provided to the public, which did not include the mandatory 15-day notice as required by law ahead of the March 15th meeting.

I am a patriot who believes **ALL** men are created equal and racism and racial inequality have no place in the United States of America. Removing memorials to Civil War dead—North and South—is disrespectful and tantamount to erasing history.

Arlington National Cemetery is unquestionably our Nation's most Sacred Shrine. Arlington's example should be one of inclusion and education, not exclusion and destruction of public art. The Civil War was the most tragic moment in our Nation's history. We owe it to posterity to educate our youth and the future why these memorials were erected. **Leave the monument where it stands, and educate our children why it was erected—as a symbol of eternal reconciliation.**

I offer these thoughts to you as a citizen whose soul aim is to make our Nation a great place to live for the current and future generations. My family and I are offended and outraged by the recommendation to remove Moses Ezekiel's Reconciliation Memorial, and I ask the Cemetery Advisory Committee to do all in its power to reject all efforts to remove this work of public art.

Very respectfully,
Michael A Mastronardi

[REDACTED]

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL
CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: David Carraway

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I, David Carraway, am submitting this statement because my family and I are deeply opposed to the Naming Commission's shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I am equally distressed by the lack of public participation throughout this process and the short notice provided to the public, which did not include the mandatory 15-day notice as required by law ahead of the March 15^h meeting.

I am a patriot who believes **ALL** men are created equal and *racism and racial inequality have no place in the United States of America.* Removing memorials to Civil War dead—North and South—is disrespectful and tantamount to erasing history.

Arlington National Cemetery is unquestionably our Nation's most Sacred Shrine. Arlington's example should be one of inclusion and education, not exclusion and destruction of public art. The Civil War was the most tragic moment in our Nation's history. We owe it to posterity to educate our youth and the future why these memorials were erected. ***Leave the monument where it stands, and educate our children why it was erected—as a symbol of eternal reconciliation.***

I offer these thoughts to you as a citizen whose soul aim is to make our Nation a great place to live for the current and future generations. My family and I are offended and outraged by the recommendation to remove Moses Ezekiel's Reconciliation Memorial, and I ask the Cemetery Advisory Committee to do all in its power to reject all efforts to remove this work of public art.

Very respectfully,
David Carraway

From: Tom Haake [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 7, 2023 6:51 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA) [REDACTED]
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: Thomas L. Haake

TITLE / AFFILIATION:

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I, Thomas L. Haake, am submitting this statement because my family and I are deeply opposed to the Naming Commission's shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I am equally distressed by the lack of public participation throughout this process and the short notice provided to the public, which did not include the mandatory 15-day notice as required by law ahead of the March 15th meeting.

I am a patriot who believes **ALL** men are created equal and **racism and racial inequality have no place in the United States of America.** Removing memorials to Civil War dead—North and South—is disrespectful and tantamount to erasing history.

If your commission takes the time to review the localities that have put the option to the voters, whether or not to remove Confederate Memorials in their localities, each has failed!

Arlington National Cemetery is unquestionably our Nation's most Sacred Shrine. Arlington's example should be one of inclusion and education, not exclusion and destruction of public art. The Civil War was the most tragic moment in our Nation's history. We owe it to posterity to educate our youth and the future why these memorials were erected. **Leave the monument where it stands, and educate our children why it was erected—as a symbol of eternal reconciliation.**

I offer these thoughts to you as a citizen whose soul aim is to make our Nation a great place to live for the current and future generations. My family and I are offended and outraged by the recommendation to remove Moses Ezekiel's Reconciliation Memorial, and I ask the Cemetery Advisory Committee to do all in its power to reject all efforts to remove this work of public art.

Very respectfully,

Thomas L. Haake

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL
CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: C. Denise Harrell

TITLE / AFFILIATION: Private Citizen

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I, C. Denise Harrell, am submitting this statement because my family and I are deeply opposed to the Naming Commission's shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I am equally distressed by the lack of public participation throughout this process and the short notice provided to the public, which did not include the mandatory 15-day notice as required by law ahead of the March 15^h meeting.

I am a patriot who believes **ALL** men are created equal and *racism and racial inequality have no place in the United States of America.* Removing memorials to Civil War dead—North and South—is disrespectful and tantamount to erasing history.

Arlington National Cemetery is unquestionably our Nation's most Sacred Shrine. Arlington's example should be one of inclusion and education, not exclusion and destruction of public art. The Civil War was the most tragic moment in our Nation's history. We owe it to posterity to educate our youth and the future why these memorials were erected. ***Leave the monument where it stands, and educate our children why it was erected—as a symbol of eternal reconciliation.***

I offer these thoughts to you as a citizen whose soul aim is to make our Nation a great place to live for the current and future generations. My family and I are offended and outraged by the recommendation to remove Moses Ezekiel's Reconciliation Memorial, and I ask the Cemetery Advisory Committee to do all in its power to reject all efforts to remove this work of public art.

Very respectfully,
C. Denise Harrell

From: Bert Clements [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 7, 2023 2:28 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA) [REDACTED]
Cc: Robert H. Floyd [REDACTED]; Jim Whitehead [REDACTED]
Subject: [URL Verdict: Neutral][Non-DoD Source] Re: Arlington Cemetery Advisory Meeting - March 15th

Good morning Mr. Davis,

As requested per your Advisory Committee Meeting Notice on Arlington National Cemetery ([federalregister.gov/d/2023-04611](https://www.federalregister.gov/d/2023-04611)), I want to attend the "Remember and Explore Subcommittee Meeting"; the "Honor Subcommittee Meeting"; and the "Full ACANC meeting".

Name: Hubert L. Clements
Organization: Sons of Confederate Veterans
email address: [REDACTED]
phone number: [REDACTED]

My 2nd great grandfather fought for Virginia in the Civil War, and his father fought for the U.S. in the War of 1812. The Confederate Memorial at Arlington was designed and intended to confirm the reconciliation of North and South in that horrible War. The monument is a bronze funereal monument to honor the fallen Soldiers there. It is a work of art. A beautiful larger-than-life-size female in classical dress wears an olive wreath of peace on her head, and in her hand extends a laurel wreath from Greek mythology, symbolizing success and achievement. Removing the Confederate Monument at Arlington National Cemetery is simply an attempt to erase our history and would be a tragic mistake for our country.

Respectfully,
Bert Clements



March 7, 2023

Rodney Mims Cook, Jr.



To Whom It May Concern:

I, Rodney Mims Cook, Jr., am submitting this statement because my family and I are deeply opposed to the Naming Commission's shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I am equally distressed by the lack of public participation throughout this process and the short notice provided to the public, which did not include the mandatory 15-day notice as required by law ahead of the March 15th meeting.

I am a patriot who believes ALL men are created equal and racism and racial inequality have no place in the United States of America. Removing memorials to Civil War dead—North and South—is disrespectful and tantamount to erasing history.

Arlington National Cemetery is unquestionably our Nation's most Sacred Shrine. Arlington's example should be one of inclusion and education, not exclusion and destruction of public art. The Civil War was the most tragic moment in our Nation's history. We owe it to posterity to educate our youth and the future why these memorials were erected. Leave the monument where it stands, and educate our children why it was erected—as a symbol of eternal reconciliation.

I offer these thoughts to you as a citizen whose soul aim is to make our Nation a great place to live for the current and future generations. My family and I are offended and outraged by the recommendation to remove Moses Ezekiel's Reconciliation Memorial, and I ask the Cemetery Advisory Committee to do all in its power to reject all efforts to remove this work of public art.

Very respectfully,

Rodney Mims Cook, Jr.

President, National Monument Foundation

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL
CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

Jackson Matthew Waters
Private Citizen & Anglican Seminarian

I, Jackson Waters, am submitting this statement because my wife and I are deeply opposed to the Naming Commission's shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I am equally distressed by the lack of public participation throughout this process and the short notice provided to the public, which did not include the mandatory 15-day notice as required by law ahead of the March 15^h meeting.

I am a patriot who believes **ALL** men are created equal and *racism and racial inequality have no place in the United States of America.* Removing memorials to Civil War dead—North and South—is disrespectful and tantamount to erasing history.

Arlington National Cemetery is unquestionably our Nation's most Sacred Shrine. Arlington's example should be one of inclusion and education, not exclusion and destruction of public art. The Civil War was the most tragic moment in our Nation's history. We owe it to posterity to educate our youth and the future why these memorials were erected. **Leave the monument where it stands, and educate our children why it was erected—as a symbol of eternal reconciliation.**

I offer these thoughts to you as a citizen whose soul aim is to make our Nation a great place to live for the current and future generations. My family and I are offended and outraged by the recommendation to remove Moses Ezekiel's Reconciliation Memorial, and I ask the Cemetery Advisory Committee to do all in its power to reject all efforts to remove this work of public art.

Very respectfully,
J.M.W.

From: Tim [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 7, 2023 6:55 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA) [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Re: Please include this statement in the public feedback received regarding proposals to remove the Reconciliation Statue in Arlington Cemetery

Let me add one additional important item of information: I do not belong to any Confederate historical or fraternal organizations.

Warm Regards....Timothy Conway

----- Original Message -----

From: "Tim" [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Please include this statement in the public feedback received regarding proposals to remove the Reconciliation Statue in Arlington Cemetery
Date: Tue, 7 Mar 2023 04:38:02 GMT

My name is Timothy Conway, and I have been attending memorial ceremonies at the Reconciliation Statue since I was five years old. I am now sixty-five years old.

I am a retired FBI supervisor, where I served for 30 years.

I am descended from four presidents' families, to include the families of George Washington, James Madison, Zachary Taylor, and James Buchanan.

I am a lifetime member of the National Society of James Madison Family Descendants, and I am listed as such on their website.

My family and I currently own a portion of the Conway family farm that once belonged to the family of Eleanor Nellie Conway, the mother of James Madison.

My family has fought in all of this country's wars. My father was in the U.S. Marines in World War Two. My uncles fought the Japanese in the Pacific. My grandmother served in the Red Cross as a civilian employee during World War Two.

At the ceremonies at the Reconciliation Statue, the statue was never presented to me as being anything except a symbol of the reconciliation of North and South, and a symbol of the honorable nature of the men and women who fought on the losing side of that conflict.

No other interpretations were presented to me in the course of six decades.

Please do not participate in the desecration of this monument.

Warm Regards....Timothy Conway

From: Yinshih [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 7, 2023 3:33 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA) [REDACTED]
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Re: Arlington National Cemetery Reconciliation Memorial

Dear Mr Davis & Colleagues at the Pentagon,

My name is Alphonse Vinh, and I am strongly opposed to the Naming Commission's incomprehensible recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I am equally distressed by the lack of public participation throughout this process and the short notice provided to the public, which did not include the mandatory 15-day notice as required by law ahead of the March 15th meeting.

Removing memorials to the Civil War dead—North and South—is disrespectful and, frankly, erases American history. Now, I am the first generation of immigrants from Vietnam. My father, two uncles, and two cousins—all fought for the Republic of South Vietnam. My grand-uncle was the South Vietnamese ambassador to the United States during the Vietnam War. I have no background in 19th Century American affairs; however, by the grace of God, I am a proud American, and having experienced through my family the evil of totalitarian Communism which sought to obliterate historic Vietnamese tradition, I strongly oppose what I consider to be the Presentism and Wokism which seem to dominate today's American discourse.

The United States Military came to Vietnam's aid once. It has a great and honourable heritage. Please, do not surrender to this Presentist re-interpretation of Civil War history, which is far more complex than the simplistic answers given by those who wish to take down Civil War monuments such as the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

Arlington National Cemetery is America's most Hallowed Shrine. I've visited Arlington several times throughout the years.

The American Civil War was the most tragic moment in our Nation's history. We owe it to posterity to educate our youth and the future why these memorials were erected. **Leave the monument where it stands, and educate our children why it was erected—as a symbol of eternal reconciliation.**

If you visit Sir Moses Ezekiel's magnificent sculpture, the Reconciliation Memorial, you will see on top of the monument, a woman holding in her right hand a pruning hook resting upon a plough—which represents the biblical turning swords into ploughs; from war to peace. Sir Moses fought in the American Civil War; however, he spent most of his life afterwards as a renowned sculptor in Europe, based in Rome. He was knighted for his services to his adopted country of Italy, but he never forgot America. You visit today, the campus of the University of Virginia, and you will see a bronze statue of Thomas Jefferson, a replica of the one he was commissioned to do in Kentucky.

I express to you my thoughts as a member of a new generation of immigrant Americans, unfettered by the past, yet understanding of America's great history, and yes, of its tragedies, which befalls all nations on this earth, including the greatest.

Furthermore, I cannot understand who recommended the removal of Sir Moses Ezekiel's Reconciliation Memorial, and I ask the Cemetery Advisory Committee to do its utmost to reject all efforts to remove this magnificent work of public art. If we remove the Reconciliation Memorial, we not only remove a great work of public art, but we also remove its original purpose when Union and Confederate veterans were still alive: reconciliation amongst Americans on both sides of the conflict.

Respectfully Yours,

Alphonse Vinh
Bethesda, Maryland

From: Bill James [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, March 8, 2023 9:36 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA) [REDACTED]
Subject: [EEMSG-SPAM: Suspect] [Non-DoD Source] Arlington Monument

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY
RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

William James
[REDACTED]

I, William James, am submitting this statement because my family and I are deeply opposed to the Naming Commission's shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I am equally distressed by the lack of public participation throughout this process and the short notice provided to the public, which did not include the mandatory 15-day notice as required by law ahead of the March 15th meeting.

I am a patriot who believes **ALL** men are created equal and **racism and racial inequality have no place in the United States of America.** Removing memorials to Civil War dead—North and South—is disrespectful and tantamount to erasing history.

Arlington National Cemetery is unquestionably our Nation's most Sacred Shrine. Arlington's example should be one of inclusion and education, not exclusion and destruction of public art. The Civil War was the most tragic moment in our Nation's history. We owe it to posterity to educate our youth and the future why these memorials were erected. **Leave the monument where it stands, and educate our children why it was erected—as a symbol of eternal reconciliation.**

I offer these thoughts to you as a citizen whose soul aim is to make our Nation a great place to live for the current and future generations. My family and I are offended and outraged by the recommendation to remove Moses Ezekiel's Reconciliation Memorial, and I ask the Cemetery Advisory Committee to do all in its power to reject all efforts to remove this work of public art.

Very respectfully,

William James

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL
CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: *John Whitley*

TITLE / AFFILIATION: *American Citizen*

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I, John Whitley, am submitting this statement because my family and I are deeply opposed to the Naming Commission's shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I am equally distressed by the lack of public participation throughout this process and the short notice provided to the public, which did not include the mandatory 15-day notice as required by law ahead of the March 15^h meeting.

I am a patriot who believes **ALL** men are created equal and *racism and racial inequality have no place in the United States of America.* Removing memorials to Civil War dead—North and South—is disrespectful and tantamount to erasing history.

Arlington National Cemetery is unquestionably our Nation's most Sacred Shrine. Arlington's example should be one of inclusion and education, not exclusion and destruction of public art. The Civil War was the most tragic moment in our Nation's history. We owe it to posterity to educate our youth and the future why these memorials were erected. ***Leave the monument where it stands, and educate our children why it was erected—as a symbol of eternal reconciliation.***

I offer these thoughts to you as a citizen whose soul aim is to make our Nation a great place to live for the current and future generations. My family and I are offended and outraged by the recommendation to remove Moses Ezekiel's Reconciliation Memorial, and I ask the Cemetery Advisory Committee to do all in its power to reject all efforts to remove this work of public art.

Very respectfully,
John Whitley

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL
CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: Mark A. Miller

TITLE / AFFILIATION: Private Citizen

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I, Mark A. Miller, am submitting this statement because my family and I are deeply opposed to the Naming Commission's shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I am equally distressed by the lack of public participation throughout this process and the short notice provided to the public, which did not include the mandatory 15-day notice as required by law ahead of the March 15^h meeting.

I am a patriot who believes **ALL** men are created equal and *racism and racial inequality have no place in the United States of America.* Removing memorials to Civil War dead—North and South—is disrespectful and tantamount to erasing history.

Arlington National Cemetery is unquestionably our Nation's most Sacred Shrine. Arlington's example should be one of inclusion and education, not exclusion and destruction of public art. The Civil War was the most tragic moment in our Nation's history. We owe it to posterity to educate our youth and the future why these memorials were erected. ***Leave the monument where it stands, and educate our children why it was erected—as a symbol of eternal reconciliation.***

I offer these thoughts to you as a citizen whose soul aim is to make our Nation a great place to live for the current and future generations. My family and I are offended and outraged by the recommendation to remove Moses Ezekiel's Reconciliation Memorial, and I ask the Cemetery Advisory Committee to do all in its power to reject all efforts to remove this work of public art.

Very respectfully,
Mark A. Miller

-----Original Message-----

From: RONALD KIRBY [REDACTED]

Sent: Wednesday, March 8, 2023 11:24 AM

To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA) [REDACTED]

Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Arlington Confederate Memorial

The first thing that the communist / socialist want is to divide the population and to erase the history. The removal of the memorial does both. Don't tear down our memorials.

Ronald Kirby

USMC Vietnam Veteran

Sent from my iPhone

From: Jim Martin [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, March 8, 2023 12:20 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA) [REDACTED]
Subject: [URL Verdict: Neutral][Non-DoD Source] FW: CSA Monument at Arlington Cemetery.

Jimmy Martin
[REDACTED]

I am submitting this statement because I oppose the Naming Commissions recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

I oppose removal of this Memorial because it commemorates members of the armed forces of the Confederate States of America who died and were wounded during their service in the American Civil War. Over 100 years this Memorial has been at Arlington and should never be removed but forever be honored

I am offended and outraged by this recommendation and ask the Cemetery Commission to reject it.

Thank you,
Jimmy Martin
[REDACTED]



Virus-free. www.avast.com

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Wednesday, March 8, 2023 3:01 PM

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: Gravesites

Hi!! just watched a TV program indicating there is a growing movement to tear down the Civil War statue commemorating the end of the war that killed the most Americans.Seriously. Enough is enough.PLEASE, I plead with you, do NOT allow this to happen.Thank you.And if you are not the correct person to whom this email should be sent, please forward it to the person who is.In all sincerity, I thank you for taking the time to read and ponder my feelings about this issue.Feel free to contact me if you need. Again, thank you.Carol [REDACTED]

Submitted By:

Name:: Carol Schmitt

Email:: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Date: Wednesday, March 8, 2023 at 3:36:16 PM
To: "Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)" [REDACTED]
Cc: "Kirk Lyons" [REDACTED]
Subject: [URL Verdict: Neutral][Non-DoD Source] DEFEND ARLINGTON National Cemetery Commission Comment for next meeting

Dear ANCC Committee,

You refused my request to speak at your 07-08 NOV 2022 virtual meeting, contrary to law.

Please advise the Army to NOT tear down the Confederate Reconciliation Monument.

To do so is Anti-Semitic and cultural genocide. Is the US Army now warring on reconciliation?

Kirk D. Lyons, JD
[REDACTED]

----- Original Message -----

Subject: RE: [URL Verdict: Neutral][Non-DoD Source] ARLINGTON National Cemetery Commission REQUEST TO SPEAK

From: "Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA)" [REDACTED]

Date: 11/2/22 1:27 pm

To: [REDACTED]

Good afternoon Mr. Lyons,

Please submit any comments that you would like to present to the Advisory Committee through me, and I will pass to the Co-Chairs of the Committee. Since the agenda item is an information update to the Advisory Committee on Arlington National Cemetery (ACANC) regarding the DoD Naming Commission actions, there will be no vote by the ACANC. The Co-Chairs will decide if they will allow public dialogue at the Advisory Committee meeting.

Thank you and have a great day.

v/r

Matt

Matthew R. Davis

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 5:16 PM

To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA) [REDACTED]

Cc: Kirk Lyons [REDACTED]

Subject: [URL Verdict: Neutral][Non-DoD Source] ARLINGTON National Cemetery Commission REQUEST TO SPEAK

All active links contained in this email were disabled. Please verify the identity of the sender, and confirm the authenticity of all links contained within the message prior to copying and pasting the address to a Web browser.

Dear Mr. Davis:

This is my request to speak at the virtual Arlington National Cemetery Commission meeting on 07-08 NOV 2022

The following is submitted:

Kirk D. Lyons, JD

Please send the link

Thank you

Kirk D. Lyons

The meetings will be held virtually on:

Monday, November 7 - 1 - 4 p.m. ET
Tuesday, November 8 - 8 am - 2 p.m. ET

There is a 2 step process to sign up:

1. Request a link to participate by 5 p.m. (ET) Monday, October 31st

Provide your name, organization, if any, phone number and email address

Email [REDACTED] < Caution-[https://shoutout.wix.com/so/tr/e0bb2c75-3576-433f-b296-](https://shoutout.wix.com/so/tr/e0bb2c75-3576-433f-b296-7290df422cfe/c?w=EyPw2qJxyEDWxRB8jXL1CviCr6p2s3BHT7GOWkfogBU.eyJ1ljoiaHR0cHM6Ly9tYXR0aGV3Lnluc292QGFyYXkubWlsLyIsInliOil5ODk5MTIxMy01NjUwLTRhYTQtODM2Ni00ZjRmZjZjYWZiNTEiLCJljoiaNTIiNDgxOWMtZTAzNS00Nm11LWJiOGUtMmU5NDZhM2I3ZjY5IiwibSI6Im1haWxibHAifQ)

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2. Request to speak in the email

From: William Dowell [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, March 8, 2023 2:15 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA) [REDACTED]
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Reconciliation Memorial - public comment

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

From: Mr. W. J. Dowell, US citizen, [REDACTED]
To: Mr. Matthew Davis (DFO)
Subject: Naming Commission's proposal to destroy the Reconciliation Memorial to the Confederate dead

I am submitting this statement because my family and I are deeply opposed to the DoD Naming Commission's shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I also object to the short notice provided for public comments, which did not include the 15-day notice required by law ahead of the 15 March meeting.

Removing memorials to our Civil War dead—Union or Confederate—is unworthy of a civilized nation; it is unseemly, disrespectful, and an attempt to rewrite our history and to shame, disgrace, and dishonor its people both living and dead.

The Reconciliation Memorial was conceived by President McKinley in 1898, authorized by the US Congress in 1900, authorized by President Taft in 1906, and dedicated by President Wilson in 1914. For over a century, every past US president, at least through President Trump, has honored the Memorial and paid respects to the Southern soldiers and sailors buried there. Demolition of the Reconciliation Memorial, which has been so honored by past US presidents, would symbolize an official, public repudiation of Reconciliation by the Federal government.

Arlington National Cemetery is unquestionably our country's most Sacred Shrine. Both of my parents are laid to rest there. Arlington's example should be one of inclusion, patriotic sacrifice, and education, not exclusion, not grievous insult to our heritage and our glorious dead, and not destruction of public art. The Civil War was the most tragic moment in US history. We owe it to posterity to educate our youth and the future why these memorials were erected. ***Leave the monument where it stands, and educate our children why it was erected—as a symbol of eternal reconciliation.***

I offer these thoughts to you as a private US citizen whose aim is to make the US an accepting and decent place to live for current and future generations of all Americans. My family and I are offended and outraged by the recommendation to remove Moses Ezekiel's Reconciliation Memorial, and I ask the Cemetery Advisory Committee to do all in its power to reject all efforts to destroy this work of public art and the spirit of reconciliation, peace, unity, and brotherhood which it represents.

Sincerely,

W. J. Dowell

8 March 2023

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL
CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: **James E. Smith**

TITLE / AFFILIATION: **Private Citizen**

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I, **James E. Smith**, am submitting this statement because my family and I are deeply opposed to the Naming Commission's shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I am equally distressed by the lack of public participation throughout this process and the short notice provided to the public, which did not include the mandatory 15-day notice as required by law ahead of the March 15^h meeting.

I am a patriot who believes **ALL** men are created equal and **racism and racial inequality have no place in the United States of America.** Removing memorials to Civil War dead—North and South—is disrespectful and tantamount to erasing history.

Arlington National Cemetery is unquestionably our Nation's most Sacred Shrine. Arlington's example should be one of inclusion and education, not exclusion and destruction of public art. The Civil War was the most tragic moment in our Nation's history. We owe it to posterity to educate our youth and the future why these memorials were erected. **Leave the monument where it stands, and educate our children why it was erected—as a symbol of eternal reconciliation.**

I offer these thoughts to you as a citizen whose soul aim is to make our Nation a great place to live for the current and future generations. My family and I are offended and outraged by the recommendation to remove Moses Ezekiel's Reconciliation Memorial, and I ask the Cemetery Advisory Committee to do all in its power to reject all efforts to remove this work of public art.

Very respectfully,
James E. Smith

From: roger miller [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, March 8, 2023 6:09 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA) [REDACTED]
Subject: [URL Verdict: Neutral][Non-DoD Source]

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: **Roger Miller**

TITLE / AFFILIATION: Patriotic American

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I, **Roger Miller**, am submitting this statement because my family and I are deeply opposed to the Naming Commission's shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I am equally distressed by the lack of public participation throughout this process and the short notice provided to the public, which did not include the mandatory 15-day notice as required by law ahead of the March 15th meeting.

I am a patriot who believes **ALL** men are created equal and **racism and racial inequality have no place in the United States of America.** Removing memorials to Civil War dead—North and South—is disrespectful and tantamount to erasing history.

Arlington National Cemetery is unquestionably our Nation's most Sacred Shrine. Arlington's example should be one of inclusion and education, not exclusion and destruction of public art. The Civil War was the most tragic moment in our Nation's history. We owe it to posterity to educate our youth and the future why these memorials were erected. **Leave the monument where it stands, and educate our children why it was erected—as a symbol of eternal reconciliation.**

I offer these thoughts to you as a citizen whose soul aim is to make our Nation a great place to live for the current and future generations. My family and I are offended and outraged by the recommendation to remove Moses Ezekiel's Reconciliation Memorial, and I ask the Cemetery Advisory Committee to do all in its power to reject all efforts to remove this work of public art.

Very respectfully,

Roger Miller



Virus-free. www.avast.com

From: David McCallister [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, March 8, 2023 8:15 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA) [REDACTED]
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Arlington Cemetery - Re saving the Reconciliation Memorial

Mr. Davis, Please forward this email communication regarding the Reconciliation Memorial in Section 16 to the Arlington National Cemetery Advisory Committee.

To the Advisory Committee:

The so-called "Naming Commission" which submitted a report proposing that the Reconciliation Memorial designed and constructed by Sir Moses Ezekiel in Section 16 of Arlington National Cemetery exceeded its authority and remit in this matter because that memorial is a grave marker in a cemetery and specifically excluded from their consideration. It's so simple - Arlington is a cemetery (In a National Historic District which designates this memorial as a contributing artifact to that designation, no less). This is a structure right at the gravesites of human burials, including Ezekiel's own. Therefore it is to anyone not a biased and prejudiced hater, it is obviously a grave marker.

The Advisory Committee itself has seriously failed to properly notify the public of the opportunity to submit communications and to appear and speak before the committee as required by its settled mandated procedures. There is no reasonable excuse for not abiding by the "notice and opportunity to be heard" requirements. There is no emergency, no "circumstances beyond anyone's control", justifying any exemptions. To say otherwise is just patently absurd. A lawsuit has been filed and no action at all should even be taken until the court system has had time to review the improper actions of the "Naming Commission". The judiciary is supposed to be a check and balance to the executive and legislative branches, especially when they exceed their constitutional limitations. Let them weigh in before the commission of an unforgivable act of wanton iconoclasm, akin to the excesses of the Nazi's, Communists, Taliban, and Isis. Official repudiation of "Reconciliation" is Un-American.

The origin of all this aggravation can be traced to Sen. Elizabeth Warren's Bill in the US Congress creating the "Naming Commission". She said that the Southerners were "traitors". She is a liar, and this calumny is an opprobrious defamation. This Bill was passed by Congress; and is thus directly addressed by the US Constitution, which specifically prohibits Bills of Attainder. A Bill of Attainder imposes a penalty- including the loss of the honor of having assets named, and the Arlington Reconciliation Memorial maintained, for individuals who have not had a trial. Where is the treason trial of Sir Ezekiel Moses- or anyone else buried in Section 16? The Committee can not be a party to and enabler of this unconstitutional and illegal act.

You do not want to be aiding and abetting unconstitutional acts, even by Congress, nor be accused of being an accessory after the fact to others' improper acts by turning a blind eye and passing the buck on to the Army. Stop the madness here. I suggest the Committee consult its lawyers and ask for a review of this allegation. I am sure they will advise the Committee that the recommendation of the "Naming Commission" is not legal, was not properly arrived at, and is not acceptable. It is not to be acted upon. In turn, you, the Arlington Cemetery Advisory Committee should advise the Army the same thing- you have misgivings about the constitutionality of the suggestions, and the propriety of the "Naming Commission's" recommendations.

Please put this email communication in the Record of the Committee, and follow my advice to halt the hate right here - do not help remove the Reconciliation Memorial!

Sincerely yours,
David R. McCallister,
US Citizen



STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL
CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: Brian J. Amen

TITLE / AFFILIATION: Private citizen

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I, Brian J. Amen, am submitting this statement because my family and I are deeply opposed to the Naming Commission's shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I am equally distressed by the lack of public participation throughout this process and the short notice provided to the public, which did not include the mandatory 15-day notice as required by law ahead of the March 15^h meeting.

I am a patriot who believes **ALL** men are created equal and *racism and racial inequality have no place in the United States of America.* Removing memorials to Civil War dead—North and South—is disrespectful and tantamount to erasing history.

Arlington National Cemetery is unquestionably our Nation's most Sacred Shrine. Arlington's example should be one of inclusion and education, not exclusion and destruction of public art. The Civil War was the most tragic moment in our Nation's history. We owe it to posterity to educate our youth and the future why these memorials were erected. ***Leave the monument where it stands, and educate our children why it was erected—as a symbol of eternal reconciliation.***

I offer these thoughts to you as a citizen whose soul aim is to make our Nation a great place to live for the current and future generations. My family and I are offended and outraged by the recommendation to remove Moses Ezekiel's Reconciliation Memorial, and I ask the Cemetery Advisory Committee to do all in its power to reject all efforts to remove this work of public art.

Very respectfully,
Brian J. Amen

From: Bill Crews [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, March 8, 2023 9:38 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA) [REDACTED]
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: *William Crews*
TITLE / AFFILIATION: *Historic Staunton River Battlefield Foundation, Board of Trustees*
ADDRESS: [REDACTED]
DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I, William Crews, am submitting this statement because my family and I are deeply opposed to the Naming Commission's shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I am equally distressed by the lack of public participation throughout this process and the short notice provided to the public, which did not include the mandatory 15-day notice as required by law ahead of the March 15th meeting.

I am a patriot who believes **ALL** men are created equal and *racism and racial inequality have no place in the United States of America.* Removing memorials to Civil War dead—North and South—is disrespectful and tantamount to erasing history.

Arlington National Cemetery is unquestionably our Nation's most Sacred Shrine. Arlington's example should be one of inclusion and education, not exclusion and destruction of public art. The Civil War was the most tragic moment in our Nation's history. We owe it to posterity to educate our youth and the future why these memorials were erected. **Leave the monument where it stands, and educate our children why it was erected—as a symbol of eternal reconciliation.**

I offer these thoughts to you as a citizen whose soul aim is to make our Nation a great place to live for the current and future generations. My family and I are offended and outraged by the recommendation to remove Moses Ezekiel's Reconciliation Memorial, and I ask the Cemetery Advisory Committee to do all in its power to reject all efforts to remove this work of public art.

Very respectfully,
William Crews

From: Michele Maher [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, March 8, 2023 10:34 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA) [REDACTED]
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: Michele Maher

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I, Michele Maher, am submitting this statement because my family and I are deeply opposed to the Naming Commission's shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I am equally distressed by the lack of public participation throughout this process and the short notice provided to the public, which did not include the mandatory 15-day notice as required by law ahead of the March 15th meeting.

I am a patriot who believes ALL men are created equal and racism and racial inequality have no place in the United States of America. Removing memorials to Civil War dead—North and South—is disrespectful and tantamount to erasing history.

Arlington National Cemetery is unquestionably our Nation's most Sacred Shrine. Arlington's example should be one of inclusion and education, not exclusion and destruction of public art. The Civil War was the most tragic moment in our Nation's history. We owe it to posterity to educate our youth and the future why these memorials were erected. Leave the monument where it stands, and educate our children why it was erected—as a symbol of eternal reconciliation.

I offer these thoughts to you as a citizen whose soul aim is to make our Nation a great place to live for the current and future generations. My family and I are offended and outraged by the recommendation to remove Moses Ezekiel's Reconciliation Memorial, and I ask the Cemetery Advisory Committee to do all in its power to reject all efforts to remove this work of public art.

Very respectfully,
Michele Maher

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL
CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

March 9, 2023

NAME: Blake Myers

TITLE / AFFILIATION: Preservation Chair, Bull Run Civil War Round Table

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I, Blake Myers, am submitting this statement because my family and I are firmly opposed to the Naming Commission's unformed recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I am distressed by the lack of transparency and public participation throughout this entire process as well as the short public notice of the March 15, 2023 meeting, which did not comply with the minimum 15-day notice required by law.

I am a patriot who believes **ALL** men are created equal and that *racism and racial discrimination have no place in the United States of America*. Removing memorials to soldiers, both North and South, who died in the Civil War is disrespectful, discriminatory and typically based on a highly politicized, biased and inaccurate version of Civil War history.

Arlington National Cemetery is unquestionably one of our Nation's most Sacred Shrines. Arlington's example should be one of inclusion and education, not exclusion and destruction of public art. The Civil War was the most tragic era in our Nation's history. We owe it to posterity to educate current and future generations on the unvarnished and non-politicized history of the Civil War era and why the purpose and meaning of these memorials. **Leave the memorial where it stands, and educate all on why it was erected—as a symbol of eternal reconciliation.**

I offer these thoughts to you as a concerned citizen whose soul aim is to ensure our Nation remains a great place to live for current and future generations. My family and I are offended and outraged by the recommendation to remove Moses Ezekiel's Reconciliation Memorial, and we request the Cemetery Advisory Committee do everything within its authority to disapprove, reject and dismiss all efforts to remove this work of public art.

Very respectfully,
Blake Myers

From: Cindy Moser [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, March 9, 2023 7:21 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA) [REDACTED]
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Reconciliation Memorial

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: *Cynthia L. Moser*
TITLE / AFFILIATION: *Private Citizen*
ADDRESS: [REDACTED]
DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I, Cynthia L. Moser, am submitting this statement because my family and I are deeply opposed to the Naming Commission’s shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I am equally distressed by the lack of public participation throughout this process and the short notice provided to the public, which did not include the mandatory 15-day notice as required by law ahead of the March 15th meeting.

I am a patriot who believes **ALL** men are created equal and **racism and racial inequality have no place in the United States of America.** Removing memorials to Civil War dead—North and South—is disrespectful and tantamount to erasing history.

Arlington National Cemetery is unquestionably our Nation’s most Sacred Shrine. Arlington’s example should be one of inclusion and education, not exclusion and destruction of public art. The Civil War was the most tragic moment in our Nation’s history. We owe it to posterity to educate our youth and the future why these memorials were erected. **Leave the monument where it stands, and educate our children why it was erected—as a symbol of eternal reconciliation.**

I offer these thoughts to you as a citizen whose soul aim is to make our Nation a great place to live for the current and future generations. My family and I are offended and outraged by the

recommendation to remove Moses Ezekiel's Reconciliation Memorial, and I ask the Cemetery Advisory Committee to do all in its power to reject all efforts to remove this work of public art.

Very respectfully,

Cynthia L. Moser

Sent from my iPad

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON
NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: F. Edward Pearson, II

TITLE / AFFILIATION: Concerned Citizen

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

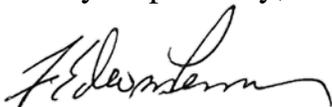
I, F. Edward Pearson, II, am submitting this statement because my family and I are deeply opposed to the Naming Commission's shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I am equally distressed by the lack of public participation throughout this process and the short notice provided to the public, which did not include the mandatory 15-day notice as required by law ahead of the March 15th meeting.

I am a patriot who believes ALL men are created equal and racism and racial inequality have no place in the United States of America. Removing memorials to Civil War dead—North and South—is disrespectful and tantamount to erasing history.

Arlington National Cemetery is unquestionably our Nation's most Sacred Shrine. Arlington's example should be one of inclusion and education, not exclusion and destruction of public art. The Civil War was the most tragic moment in our Nation's history. We owe it to posterity to educate our youth and the future why these memorials were erected. Leave the monument where it stands and educate our children as to why it was erected—as a symbol of eternal reconciliation.

I offer these thoughts to you as a concerned citizen whose soul aim is to make our Nation a great place to live for the current and future generations. My family and I are offended and outraged by the recommendation to remove Moses Ezekiel's Reconciliation Memorial, and I ask the Cemetery Advisory Committee to do all in its power to reject all efforts to remove this work of public art.

Very respectfully,



F Edward Pearson, II



Karen C. Bennet, Partner
2112 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20037
[REDACTED]
Direct: 202.558.0658

March 8, 2023

VIA E-MAIL

Matthew Davis
Alternate Designated Federal Official
Advisory Committee on Arlington National Cemetery

E-Mail: [REDACTED]

Re: Remember and Explore Subcommittee Meeting, March 14, 2023

Dear Mr. Davis:

I write on behalf of my clients, Defend Arlington, Save Southern Heritage Florida, and their members, to express our concerns with the Secretary of Defense's Implementation Directive for the Commission on the Naming of Items of the Department of Defense that Commemorate the Confederate States of America or Any Person Who Served Voluntarily with the Confederate States of America's¹ recommendations regarding the Confederate Memorial. On February 16, 2023, our clients filed a Complaint with the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia. See attached.

Our Complaint challenges the Department of Defense's final agency action directing the Army to implement the Naming Commission's recommendation to remove the Confederate Memorial as violative of Congressional mandates pursuant to the FY21 National Defense Authorization Act ("NDAA") § 370, requiring consideration of local sensitivities and exempting grave markers from the Commission's responsibility.

As evidenced by the rushed nature of this meeting, the Department of Defense has avoided the public's input throughout this entire process. Under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), 41 CFR § 102-3.150(b), less than 15 calendar days' notice may be given only in exceptional circumstances, "provided that the reasons for doing so are included in the advisory committee meeting notice published in the Federal Register." The reasons for this short notice were not provided here. Rather, the Federal Register notice merely cites to "circumstances beyond the control of the Designated Federal Officer." See Advisory Committee on Arlington National Cemetery Meeting Notice, 88 Fed. Reg. 14152 (March 7, 2023). The very purpose of the FACA is

¹ Commonly referred to as the Naming Commission.

Matthew Davis
March 8, 2023
Page 2

to ensure that the public is “kept informed with respect to the number, purpose, membership, activities, and cost of advisory committees.” 41 CFR § 102-3.10. However, providing only seven days’ notice of this meeting, and merely one day to provide written comment, ensures that the public will be unable to provide meaningful input on this issue.

Moreover, as alleged more fully in our Complaint, the ANCAC’s role of providing an advisory report on this issue has been foreclosed by the Department of the Army’s rush to implement the Naming Commission’s recommendation.

Based on the foregoing, the removal of the Confederate Memorial must be stopped until the merits of the aforementioned lawsuit can be heard by the courts.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karen C. Bennett". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Karen C. Bennett, Partner of
LEWIS BRISBOIS BISGAARD & SMITH LLP
2112 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20037
Direct: 202.558.0658

-----Original Message-----

From: Kevin & Needie [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, March 9, 2023 9:47 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA) [REDACTED]
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: Kevin E. Foltz
TITLE / AFFILIATION: U.S. of America Citizen
ADDRESS: [REDACTED]
DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I, Kevin E. Foltz, am submitting this statement because my family and I are deeply opposed to the Naming Commission's shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I am equally distressed by the lack of public participation throughout this process and the short notice provided to the public, which did not include the mandatory 15-day notice as required by law ahead of the March 15th meeting.

I am a patriot who believes ALL men are created equal and racism and racial inequality have no place in the United States of America. Removing memorials to Civil War dead—North and South—is disrespectful and tantamount to erasing history.

Arlington National Cemetery is unquestionably our Nation's most Sacred Shrine. Arlington's example should be one of inclusion and education, not exclusion and destruction of public art. The Civil War was the most tragic moment in our Nation's history. We owe it to posterity to educate our youth and the future why these memorials were erected. Leave the monument where it stands, and educate our children why it was erected—as a symbol of eternal reconciliation.

I offer these thoughts to you as a citizen whose soul aim is to make our Nation a great place to live for the current and future generations. My family and I are offended and outraged by the recommendation to remove Moses Ezekiel's Reconciliation Memorial, and I ask the Cemetery Advisory Committee

to do all in its power to reject all efforts to remove this work of public art.

Very respectfully,
Kevin E. Foltz

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL
CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: WILLIAM HASH

TITLE / AFFILIATION: SCV MEMBER

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I, WILLIAM HASH, am submitting this statement because my family and I are deeply opposed to the Naming Commission's shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I am equally distressed by the lack of public participation throughout this process and the short notice provided to the public, which did not include the mandatory 15-day notice as required by law ahead of the March 15th meeting.

I am a patriot who believes ***ALL*** men are created equal and *racism and racial inequality have no place in the United States of America*. Removing memorials to Civil War dead—North and South—is disrespectful and tantamount to erasing history.

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I offer these thoughts to you as a citizen whose soul aim is to make our Nation a great place to live for the current and future generations. My family and I are offended and outraged by the recommendation to remove Moses Ezekiel's Reconciliation Memorial, and I ask the Cemetery Advisory Committee to do all in its power to reject all efforts to remove this work of public art.

Very respectfully,

WILLIAM HASH

From: Mary Neville [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, March 9, 2023 10:27 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA) [REDACTED]
Subject: [Non-DoD Source]

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY
RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: **Mary K. Neville**
TITLE / AFFILIATION: **private citizen**
ADDRESS: [REDACTED]
DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I, **Mary K. Neville**, am submitting this statement because my family and I are deeply opposed to the Naming Commission's shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I am equally distressed by the lack of public participation throughout this process and the short notice provided to the public, which did not include the mandatory 15-day notice as required by law ahead of the March 15th meeting.

I am a patriot who believes **ALL** men are created equal and *racism and racial inequality have no place in the United States of America*. Removing memorials to Civil War dead—North and South—is disrespectful and tantamount to erasing history.

Arlington National Cemetery is unquestionably our Nation's most Sacred Shrine. Arlington's example should be one of inclusion and education, not exclusion and destruction of public art. The Civil War was the most tragic moment in our Nation's history. We owe it to posterity to educate our youth and the future why these memorials were erected. ***Leave the monument where it stands, and educate our children why it was erected—as a symbol of eternal reconciliation.***

I offer these thoughts to you as a citizen whose soul aim is to make our Nation a great place to live for the current and future generations. My family and I are offended and outraged by the recommendation to remove Moses Ezekiel's Reconciliation Memorial, and I ask the Cemetery Advisory Committee to do all in its power to reject all efforts to remove this work of public art.

Very respectfully,
Mary K. Neville

**STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL
CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL**

Richard A. Moomaw

Descendant of Samuel Moomaw / Confederate soldier in Section 16, Grave 77

I, Richard A. Moomaw, am submitting this statement because my family and I are deeply opposed to the Naming Commission's shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I am equally distressed by the lack of public participation throughout this process and the short notice provided to the public, which did not include the mandatory 15-day notice as required by law ahead of the March 15th meeting.

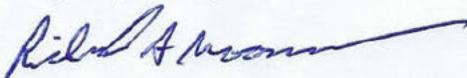
Samuel Moomaw was my great, great uncle. He was a Confederate soldier who was wounded near Culpeper, captured, and taken to a hospital in Washington DC. He died a few days later and is buried in the Confederate section of Arlington National Cemetery.

I am a patriot who believes **ALL** men are created equal and racism and racial inequality have no place in the United States of America. Removing memorials to Civil War dead—North and South—is disrespectful and tantamount to erasing history.

Arlington National Cemetery is unquestionably our Nation's most Sacred Shrine. Arlington's example should be one of inclusion and education, not exclusion and destruction of public art. The Civil War was the most tragic moment in our Nation's history. We owe it to posterity to educate our youth and the future why these memorials were erected. **Leave the monument where it stands, and educate our children why it was erected—as a symbol of eternal reconciliation.**

I offer these thoughts to you as a citizen whose soul aim is to make our Nation a great place to live for the current and future generations. My family and I are offended and outraged by the recommendation to remove Moses Ezekiel's Reconciliation Memorial, and I ask the Cemetery Advisory Committee to do all in its power to reject all efforts to remove this work of public art.

Very respectfully,



Richard A. Moomaw

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL
CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME Ricky E. Pritchett

TITLE / AFFILIATION: *Private Citizen*

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I, Ricky E. Pritchett, am submitting this statement because my family and I are deeply opposed to the Naming Commission's shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I am equally distressed by the lack of public participation throughout this process and the short notice provided to the public, which did not include the mandatory 15-day notice as required by law ahead of the March 15^h meeting.

I am a patriot who believes **ALL** men are created equal and *racism and racial inequality have no place in the United States of America.* Removing memorials to Civil War dead—North and South—is disrespectful and tantamount to erasing history.

Arlington National Cemetery is unquestionably our Nation's most Sacred Shrine. Arlington's example should be one of inclusion and education, not exclusion and destruction of public art. The Civil War was the most tragic moment in our Nation's history. We owe it to posterity to educate our youth and the future why these memorials were erected. **Leave the monument where it stands, and educate our children why it was erected—as a symbol of eternal reconciliation.**

I offer these thoughts to you as a citizen whose soul aim is to make our Nation a great place to live for the current and future generations. My family and I are offended and outraged by the recommendation to remove Moses Ezekiel's Reconciliation Memorial, and I ask the Cemetery Advisory Committee to do all in its power to reject all efforts to remove this work of public art.

Very respectfully,
Ricky E. Pritchett

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, March 9, 2023 10:57 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA) [REDACTED]
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Stop the Removal of the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: *Karen Grigg*
TITLE / AFFILIATION: *Private Citizen*
ADDRESS: [REDACTED]
DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I, Karen Grigg, am submitting this statement because my family and I are deeply opposed to the Naming Commission's shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I am equally distressed by the lack of public participation throughout this process and the short notice provided to the public, which did not include the mandatory 15-day notice as required by law ahead of the March 15th meeting.

I am a patriot who believes ALL men are created equal and racism and racial inequality have no place in the United States of America. Removing memorials to Civil War dead—North and South—is disrespectful and tantamount to erasing history.

Arlington National Cemetery is unquestionably our Nation's most Sacred Shrine. Arlington's example should be one of inclusion and education, not exclusion and destruction of public art. The Civil War was the most tragic moment in our Nation's history. We owe it to posterity to educate our youth and the future why these memorials were erected. Leave the monument where it stands, and educate our children why it was erected—as a symbol of eternal reconciliation.

I offer these thoughts to you as a citizen whose soul aim is to make our Nation a great place to live for the current and future generations. My family and I are offended and outraged by the recommendation to remove Moses Ezekiel's Reconciliation Memorial, and I ask the Cemetery Advisory Committee to do all in its power to reject all efforts to remove this work of public art.

Very respectfully,
Karen Grigg

From: tami hurley [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, March 9, 2023 11:58 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA) [REDACTED]
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Opposition to Confederate Memorial Removal at Arlington

Hello!!

I am writing in **opposition** to the removal of the Confederate Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery.

The Memorial was placed as a note of Reconciliation over several graves and around many graves. The sculpture is a piece of artwork that I believe should remain because of it's story. Question... as it is artwork... is this the proper Federal Committee to actually be discussing it's future?

In short... **Leave** the Confederate Memorial in its current location.

Thank you for the opportunity to have a **voice within our democracy!!**

Tami Hurley
Tyler, TX

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL
CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: *Steven D. Owen*

TITLE / AFFILIATION: *Major, US Army (Retired)*

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I, Steven D. Owen, am submitting this statement because my family and I are deeply opposed to the Naming Commission's shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I am equally distressed by the lack of public participation throughout this process and the short notice provided to the public, which did not include the mandatory 15-day notice as required by law ahead of the March 15^h meeting.

I am a patriot who believes **ALL** men are created equal and *racism and racial inequality have no place in the United States of America.* Removing memorials to Civil War dead—North and South—is disrespectful and tantamount to erasing history.

Arlington National Cemetery is unquestionably our Nation's most Sacred Shrine. Arlington's example should be one of inclusion and education, not exclusion and destruction of public art. The Civil War was the most tragic moment in our Nation's history. We owe it to posterity to educate our youth and the future why these memorials were erected. **Leave the monument where it stands, and educate our children why it was erected—as a symbol of eternal reconciliation.**

I offer these thoughts to you as a citizen whose soul aim is to make our Nation a great place to live for the current and future generations. My family and I are offended and outraged by the recommendation to remove Moses Ezekiel's Reconciliation Memorial, and I ask the Cemetery Advisory Committee to do all in its power to reject all efforts to remove this work of public art.

Very respectfully,

Major Steven D. Owen (US Army, Retired)

From: Andrew Johnson [REDACTED]

Sent: Thursday, March 9, 2023 1:26 PM

To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA) [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: [Non-DoD Source] C.S.A . Arlington Cemetery Monument

Shame!

Shame!

Shame!

What's happened to the "leadership" of our Armed Forces???

Have they no respect for those veterans, whether they wore the Blue or the Gray, and their descendants? They were ALL Americans.

I hope that those brave Americans will be waiting for today's ignorant ingrates when they cross over the bar into the Great Beyond.

Andrew Mivelaz Johnson



**(Member, U.S. Armed Forces,
Regular and Reserve, 1965-1994.)**

Post Script: What about the burial site of Gen. Joe Wheeler? It's surrounded by many Union generals, many of whom Wheeler attended West Point with; this is close to Maj. Pierre L'Enfant's grave. On one side of Wheeler's monument is C.S.A. and on the other side U.S.A. Is that to be removed also? Fighting Joe came back on active duty to fight in the Spanish-American war, as did Gen. Fitz Lee and other Civil War veterans.

[IKE's Military-Industrial speech becomes more prescient each and every day.]

Joseph Judson Smith, III



March 8, 2023

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL
CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

My family and I are opposed to the Naming Commission's shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I am equally distressed by the lack of public participation throughout this process and the short notice provided to the public, which did not include the mandatory 15-day notice as required by law ahead of the March 15th meeting.

I am a U.S. Army veteran as were my father and my two grandfathers one of whom is buried in Arlington National Cemetery. We served in the Viet Nam Era, World War II, World War I, and the Spanish-American War. All American soldiers have fought to protect our freedom and our creed, granted, sometimes not lived up to, that all men are created equal.

Removing memorials to Civil War dead—North and South—is disrespectful to our creed and flaunting disrespect in the faces of those who are not on this earth any longer to protect their good name, deeds, sacrifices, and valor.

Arlington National Cemetery is one of our nation's most hallowed places. It must be one of inclusion and education, not exclusion and destruction. Of particular note is the world-famous Jewish sculptor Moses Ezekiel's statue of Confederate dead as authorized by President William McKinley, a Union Army veteran, and dedicated by President Woodrow Wilson.

Arlington was a U.S. Army cemetery, and for years after the Civil War, Confederate veterans could not be buried there. However, on December 14, 1898 — four days after the Spanish-American War ended — President William McKinley kicked off his "Peace Jubilee" nationwide tour with a speech in Atlanta in which he proclaimed, "... in the spirit of fraternity, we should share with you in the care of the graves of Confederate soldiers.... Sectional feeling no longer holds back the love we feel for each other. The old flag again waves over us in peace with new glories."

Do not regress to the tragic era surrounding the Civil War by destroying the statue that symbolizes reconciliation, forgiveness, acceptance, and the love good citizens have for each other. I urge you to move forward and not backward which will open old wounds long ago healed.

Sincerely,

Joseph Judson Smith, III

**Statement Opposing the Removal of
Moses Ezekiel's Reconciliation Memorial
from Arlington National Cemetery**

March 10, 2023

NAME: Edward T. Wenzel

AFFILIATION: Member, Bull Run Civil War Round Table, Centreville, VA
Author, *Chronology of the Civil War in Fairfax County*

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

PHONE: [REDACTED]

I, Edward T. Wenzel, wish to express my total opposition to the Naming Commission's unjustified and shameful recommendation to remove the Confederate Reconciliation Memorial from Arlington National Cemetery. That this desecration is being proposed is an outrage that seeks to deny the public any right to see Ezekiel's beautiful memorial dedicated to healing the wounds of our most tragic war. I am also deeply troubled that this recommendation is being pushed forward on short notice (despite the requirements of law) and without the public participation that such an insult to history would require.

I was born and educated in Washington D.C. and I believe that ALL people are created equal and that racism and racial inequality have no place in the United States of America. I also believe that removing memorials to Civil War dead—North or South—is shameful, intolerant, and Orwellian.

The Reconciliation Memorial was proposed following the Spanish-American War—a cause that helped reunite Americans North and South and bring them together again as one nation. This was a welcome outcome that made an impression on President William McKinley of Ohio, who as a former Union Army lieutenant and brevet major, had fought in numerous battles of the Civil War. Governor McKinley had traveled through the South during his presidential campaign and was disturbed by the condition of untended Confederate graves. At the time, the War Department forbade Southern citizens to lay flowers at unknown Confederate graves scattered about Arlington Cemetery. In 1898, McKinley celebrated the end of sectionalism and announced that hence forth, the federal government would tend Confederate graves because those dead represented “American valor,” which (whether some like it or not) is as true today as it was then.

While many Southerners opposed McKinley's announcement, others saw it as a symbolic gesture of reconciliation and national unification. Eventually, a separate section was set aside at Arlington to reinter 264 unknown Confederate remains from around the cemetery, and from nearby Soldiers Home. That, and a proposed Reconciliation Memorial brought various Southern groups together. In 1906, Secretary of War William Howard Taft of Ohio granted permission for the Memorial to be erected.

Arlington National Cemetery is our nation's Hallowed Ground. Arlington's example should be one of inclusion and education, not exclusion and intolerance, or the desecration of a historic war memorial. The Civil War was the defining event of American history. We owe it to posterity to educate our youth and future generations about why this memorial was erected. **Leave the monument where it stands—as a symbol of eternal reconciliation**. I implore the Cemetery Advisory Committee to do everything in your capacity to reject all ideological efforts to remove this nationally acclaimed Memorial to Confederate American dead.

Respectfully,
Edward T. Wenzel

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, March 9, 2023 3:03 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA) [REDACTED]
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Momument Removal

Dear Mr. Davis,

As a historical preservationist, I am deeply concerned and saddened about the plan to removed the Confederate monument at Jackson Circle in Arlington National Cemetery. Arlington holds a special place in my heart. Many of my grandparents, uncles, aunts, cousins of mine are buried there. Both Robert and Mary Custis Lee are my cousins. My cousin Mary Taliaferro Miller Thompson organized the effort to build the monument. My roots at Arlington are deep. My family represents both sides of the Civil War and those stories must remain for us to learn from.

I'm appalled that Arlington would bend to the will of the woke minority. I'm a firm believer in historical accuracy. I believe the monument and all Confederate statues should remain where they are. This is a teachable opportunity to learn our history, both positive and negative, and how far we've come in righting our historical mistakes. If this monument is removed, that lesson will be lost and false information will be allowed to replace it.

I hope that Arlington will remain strong and not participate in the destruction of our history.

Sincerely,

Dr. Linda Sundquist-Nassie

From: jennifer jones [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, March 9, 2023 3:31 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA) [REDACTED]
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Arlington cemetery

Hi.
Not sure I am sending this to the correct person but if not, who?
And Is it to late to submit this form ?
Thank you

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: jennifer jones [REDACTED]
Date: March 9, 2023 at 12:29:18 PM EST
To: jennifer jones [REDACTED]

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: *Jennifer Jones*
ADDRESS: [REDACTED]
DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I, Jennifer Jones, am submitting this statement because my family and I are deeply opposed to the Naming Commission's shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I am equally distressed by the lack of public participation throughout this process and the short notice provided to the public, which did not include the mandatory 15-day notice as required by law ahead of the March 15th meeting.

I am a patriot who believes **ALL** men are created equal and racism and racial inequality have no place in the United States of America. Removing memorials to

Civil War dead—North and South—is disrespectful and tantamount to erasing history.

Arlington National Cemetery is unquestionably our Nation's most Sacred Shrine. Arlington's example should be one of inclusion and education, not exclusion and destruction of public art. The Civil War was the most tragic moment in our Nation's history. We owe it to posterity to educate our youth and the future why these memorials were erected. **Leave the monument where it stands, and educate our children why it was erected—as a symbol of eternal reconciliation.**

I offer these thoughts to you as a citizen whose soul aim is to make our Nation a great place to live for the current and future generations. My family and I are offended and outraged by the recommendation to remove Moses Ezekiel's Reconciliation Memorial, and I ask the Cemetery Advisory Committee to do all in its power to reject all efforts to remove this work of public art.

Very respectfully,
Jennifer Jones

Sent from my iPad

From: Buddy and Joan Jones [REDACTED]

Sent: Thursday, March 9, 2023 5:57 PM

To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA) [REDACTED]

Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Fwd:

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: *Joan Jones*

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I, Joan Jones, am submitting this statement because my family and I are deeply opposed to the Naming Commission's shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I am equally distressed by the lack of public participation throughout this process and the short notice provided to the public, which did not include the mandatory 15-day notice as required by law ahead of the March 15th meeting.

I am a patriot who believes **ALL** men are created equal and *racism and racial inequality have no place in the United States of America.* Removing memorials to Civil War dead—North and South—is disrespectful and tantamount to erasing history.

Arlington National Cemetery is unquestionably our Nation's most Sacred Shrine. Arlington's example should be one of inclusion and education, not exclusion and destruction of public art. The Civil War was the most tragic moment in our Nation's history. We owe it to posterity to educate our youth and the future why these memorials were erected. **Leave the monument where it stands, and educate our children why it was erected—as a symbol of eternal reconciliation.**

I offer these thoughts to you as a citizen whose soul aim is to make our Nation a great place to live for the current and future generations. My family and I are offended and outraged by the recommendation to remove Moses Ezekiel's Reconciliation Memorial, and I ask the Cemetery Advisory Committee to do all in its power to reject all efforts to remove this work of public art.

Very respectfully,
Joan Jones

From: Buddy and Joan Jones [REDACTED]

Sent: Thursday, March 9, 2023 6:01 PM

To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA) [REDACTED]

Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Fwd:

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL
CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: Isaac N *Jones, III*

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I, Isaac N Jones, III, am submitting this statement because my family and I are deeply opposed to the Naming Commission's shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I am equally distressed by the lack of public participation throughout this process and the short notice provided to the public, which did not include the mandatory 15-day notice as required by law ahead of the March 15th meeting.

I am a patriot who believes ***ALL*** men are created equal and *racism and racial inequality have no place in the United States of America.* Removing memorials to Civil War dead—North and South—is disrespectful and tantamount to erasing history.

Arlington National Cemetery is unquestionably our Nation's most Sacred Shrine. Arlington's example should be one of inclusion and education, not exclusion and destruction of public art. The Civil War was the most tragic moment in our Nation's history. We owe it to posterity to educate our youth and the future

why these memorials were erected. **Leave the monument where it stands, and educate our children why it was erected—as a symbol of eternal reconciliation.**

I offer these thoughts to you as a citizen whose soul aim is to make our Nation a great place to live for the current and future generations. My family and I are offended and outraged by the recommendation to remove Moses Ezekiel's Reconciliation Memorial, and I ask the Cemetery Advisory Committee to do all in its power to reject all efforts to remove this work of public art.

Very respectfully,
Isaac N. Jones, III

From: Lynn Gray [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, March 9, 2023 7:12 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA) [REDACTED]
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Statement in Opposition to the Removal of the Arlington National Cemetery Reconciliation Memorial

Name: Lynn Gray
Title: Private Citizen
Address: [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]

I, Lynn Gray, am writing to you to express my deep opposition to the Naming Commission's recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. In addition, it was very odd that the notification to the public was delayed so as to limit the statements that would be accepted. I am sending this note anyway to object to both the removal of the Reconciliation Memorial as well as the lack of respect for the citizens of this country for not allowing time for voicing of opinions, either pro or con.

I will make it short and sweet --- if you remove the Reconciliation Memorial you are destroying a part of our nation's history. How much more will be torn down?

Respectfully,

Lynn Gray

From: James Nanney [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, March 9, 2023 10:50 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA) [REDACTED]
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Opposition to Destruction of Confederate Memorial

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE CONFEDERATE MEMORIAL IN ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY

NAME: *James S. Nanney, Ph.D.*
TITLE / AFFILIATION: *US Army and Air Force Historian, 1980-2009*
ADDRESS: [REDACTED]
DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I, James S Nanney, am submitting this statement because I am deeply opposed to the Naming Commission’s shameful recommendation to remove the Confederate Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I am equally distressed by the lack of public participation throughout this process and the short notice provided to the public, which did not include the mandatory 15-day notice as required by law ahead of the March 15th meeting.

Removing such a memorial is disrespectful and tantamount to erasing history.

Arlington National Cemetery is unquestionably this nation’s most notable and visible military shrine. Arlington’s example, therefore, should be one of objectivity and education, not exclusion and destruction of public art. The Civil War was the most tragic moment in American history. Today’s Military Services are obligated to educate our youth and future generations about the reasons Arlington’s memorials were erected. **Leave the monument to Confederate dead where it stands, and educate our children why it was erected.**

I am offended and outraged by the recommendation to remove Moses Ezekiel’s Memorial, and I ask the Cemetery Advisory Committee to do all in its power to reject all efforts to remove this work of public art.

Very respectfully,
James S. Nanney



STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL
CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: *Debra Witt*

TITLE / AFFILIATION: *Private Citizen, history preservationist*

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I, Debra Witt am submitting this statement because my family and I are deeply opposed to the Naming Commission's shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I am equally distressed by the lack of public participation throughout this process and the short notice provided to the public, which did not include the mandatory 15-day notice as required by law ahead of the March 15^h meeting.

I am a patriot who believes **ALL** men are created equal and *racism and racial inequality have no place in the United States of America.* Removing memorials to Civil War dead—North and South—is disrespectful and tantamount to erasing history.

Arlington National Cemetery is unquestionably our Nation's most Sacred Shrine. Arlington's example should be one of inclusion and education, not exclusion and destruction of public art. The Civil War was the most tragic moment in our Nation's history. We owe it to posterity to educate our youth and the future why these memorials were erected. **Leave the monument where it stands, and educate our children why it was erected—as a symbol of eternal reconciliation.**

I offer these thoughts to you as a citizen whose soul aim is to make our Nation a great place to live for the current and future generations. My family and I are offended and outraged by the recommendation to remove Moses Ezekiel's Reconciliation Memorial, and I ask the Cemetery Advisory Committee to do all in its power to reject all efforts to remove this work of public art.

Very respectfully,

Debra A. Witt

From: Beverly [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 10, 2023 8:22 AM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA) [REDACTED]
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Changes at Arlington

Beverly Shreeve
Private Citizen

[REDACTED]

I, Beverly Shreeve, am submitting this statement because my family and I are deeply opposed to the Naming Commission's shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I am equally distressed by the lack of public participation throughout this process and the short notice provided to the public, which did not include the mandatory 15-day notice as required by law ahead of the March 15th meeting.

I fail to understand removing all traces of our history from our country. Aren't we aware that if we erase history, we are doomed to repeat it?

The current pressure to destroy and hate will have devastating consequences if we allow it to continue. Even in the years immediately after the war, veterans from North and South had regular reunions together to show forgiveness, reconciliation and love of our country. We can't show the same?

Removing memorials to Civil War dead—North and South—is disrespectful and tantamount to erasing history.

The Civil War was the most tragic moment in our Nation's history. We owe it to posterity to educate our youth and the future why these memorials were erected. Please leave the monument where it stands, and educate our children why it was erected—as a symbol of eternal reconciliation.

I offer these thoughts to you as a citizen whose soul aim is to make our Nation a great place to live for the current and future generations. My family and I are offended and outraged by the recommendation to remove Moses Ezekiel's Reconciliation Memorial, and I ask the Cemetery Advisory Committee to do all in its power to reject all efforts to remove this work of public art.

Very respectfully,
Beverly Shreeve

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL
CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: **Harvey Wray**

TITLE / AFFILIATION: **SCV**

ADDRESS: [REDACTED] **YOUR ADDRESS**

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I, Harvey C Wray, am submitting this statement because my family and I are deeply opposed to the Naming Commission's shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I am equally distressed by the lack of public participation throughout this process and the short notice provided to the public, which did not include the mandatory 15-day notice as required by law ahead of the March 15^h meeting.

I am a patriot who believes **ALL** men are created equal and *racism and racial inequality have no place in the United States of America.* Removing memorials to Civil War dead—North and South—is disrespectful and tantamount to erasing history.

Arlington National Cemetery is unquestionably our Nation's most Sacred Shrine. Arlington's example should be one of inclusion and education, not exclusion and destruction of public art. The Civil War was the most tragic moment in our Nation's history. We owe it to posterity to educate our youth and the future why these memorials were erected. **Leave the monument where it stands, and educate our children why it was erected—as a symbol of eternal reconciliation.**

I offer these thoughts to you as a citizen whose soul aim is to make our Nation a great place to live for the current and future generations. My family and I are offended and outraged by the recommendation to remove Moses Ezekiel's Reconciliation Memorial, and I ask the Cemetery Advisory Committee to do all in its power to reject all efforts to remove this work of public art.

Harvey Very respectfully,
C Wray

From: James Nanney [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 10, 2023 1:31 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA) [REDACTED]
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comment on removal of Confederate Memorial

PERSONAL STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE CONFEDERATE MEMORIAL
IN ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY

NAME: *James S. Nanney, Ph.D.*
TITLE / AFFILIATION: *Historian/US Army and Air Force Historian, 1980-2009*
ADDRESS: [REDACTED]
DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I, James S Nanney, am submitting this statement because I am deeply opposed to the Naming Commission's recommendation to remove the Confederate Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery.

Removing such a memorial is disrespectful and tantamount to erasing history.

Arlington National Cemetery is unquestionably this nation's most notable and visible military shrine. Arlington's example, therefore, should be one of objectivity and education, not exclusion and destruction of public art. The Civil War was the most tragic moment in American history. Today's Military Services are obligated to educate our youth and future generations about the reasons Arlington's memorials were erected. **Leave the monument to Confederate dead where it stands, and educate our children why it was erected.**

I am offended and outraged by the recommendation to remove Moses Ezekiel's Memorial, and I ask the Cemetery Advisory Committee to do all in its power to reject all efforts to remove this work of public art.

Very respectfully,
James S. Nanney

James Nanney

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL
CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

March 10, 2023

Rochella Adair
Concerned Citizen



I, Rochella Adair, am submitting this statement because my family and I are deeply opposed to the Naming Commission's shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I am equally distressed by the lack of public participation throughout this process and the short notice provided to the public, which did not include the mandatory 15-day notice as required by law ahead of the March 15^h meeting.

I am a patriot who believes **ALL** men are created equal and *racism and racial inequality have no place in the United States of America.* Removing memorials to Civil War dead—North and South—is disrespectful and tantamount to erasing history.

Arlington National Cemetery is unquestionably our Nation's most Sacred Shrine. Arlington's example should be one of inclusion and education, not exclusion and destruction of public art. The Civil War was the most tragic moment in our Nation's history. We owe it to posterity to educate our youth and the future why these memorials were erected. ***Leave the monument where it stands, and educate our children why it was erected—as a symbol of eternal reconciliation.***

I offer these thoughts to you as a citizen whose soul aim is to make our Nation a great place to live for the current and future generations. My family and I are offended and outraged by the recommendation to remove Moses Ezekiel's Reconciliation Memorial, and I ask the Cemetery Advisory Committee to do all in its power to reject all efforts to remove this work of public art.

Very respectfully,
Rochella Adair

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Friday, March 10, 2023 3:22 PM

To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA) [REDACTED]

Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Arlington Cemetery

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

James L. Patton

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I, James L. Patton, am submitting this statement because my family and I are deeply opposed to the Naming Commission's shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I am equally distressed by the lack of public participation throughout this process and the short notice provided to the public, which did not include the mandatory 15-day notice as required by law ahead of the March 15th meeting.

I am a patriot who believes **ALL** men are created equal and *racism and racial inequality have no place in the United States of America.* Removing memorials to Civil War dead—North and South—is disrespectful and tantamount to erasing history.

Arlington National Cemetery is unquestionably our Nation's most Sacred Shrine. Arlington's example should be one of inclusion and education, not exclusion and destruction of public art. The Civil War was the most tragic moment in our Nation's history. We owe it to posterity to educate our youth and the future why these memorials were erected. ***Leave the monument where it stands, and educate our children why it was erected—as a symbol of eternal reconciliation.***

I offer these thoughts to you as a citizen whose soul aim is to make our Nation a great place to live for the current and future generations. My family and I are offended and outraged by the recommendation to remove Moses Ezekiel's Reconciliation Memorial, and I ask the Cemetery Advisory Committee to do all in its power to reject all efforts to remove this work of public art.

Very respectfully,

James L. Patton

From: Jane Turnbull [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 10, 2023 4:32 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA) [REDACTED]
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Open Committee Meeting 3/15/2023

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY
RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: *Jane S. Turnbull*
TITLE / AFFILIATION: *Private Citizen*
ADDRESS: [REDACTED]
DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I, Jane S. Turnbull, am submitting this statement because my family and I are deeply opposed to the Naming Commission's shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I am equally distressed by the lack of public participation throughout this process and the short notice provided to the public, which did not include the mandatory 15-day notice as required by law ahead of the March 15th meeting.

I am a patriot who believes **ALL** men are created equal and **racism and racial inequality have no place in the United States of America.** Removing memorials to Civil War dead—North and South—is disrespectful and tantamount to erasing history.

Arlington National Cemetery is unquestionably our Nation's most Sacred Shrine. Arlington's example should be one of inclusion and education, not exclusion and destruction of public art. The Civil War was the most tragic moment in our Nation's history. We owe it to posterity to educate our youth and the future why these memorials were erected. **Leave the monument where it stands, and educate our children why it was erected—as a symbol of eternal reconciliation.**

I offer these thoughts to you as a citizen whose soul aim is to make our Nation a great place to live for the current and future generations. My family and I are offended and outraged by the recommendation to remove Moses Ezekiel's Reconciliation Memorial, and I ask the Cemetery Advisory Committee to do all in its power to reject all efforts to remove this work of public art.

Very respectfully,

Jane S. Turnbull

--

"We may grasp virtue so hard that it becomes vicious."

— *Robert Bland*

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL
CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: Lori Graham

TITLE / AFFILIATION: American Citizen

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I, Lori Graham, am submitting this statement because my family and I are deeply opposed to the Naming Commission's shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I am equally distressed by the lack of public participation throughout this process and the short notice provided to the public, which did not include the mandatory 15-day notice as required by law ahead of the March 15th meeting.

I am a patriot who believes **ALL** men are created equal and *racism and racial inequality have no place in the United States of America.* Removing memorials to Civil War dead—North and South—is disrespectful and tantamount to erasing history.

Arlington National Cemetery is unquestionably our Nation's most Sacred Shrine. Arlington's example should be one of inclusion and education, not exclusion and destruction of public art. The Civil War was the most tragic moment in our Nation's history. We owe it to posterity to educate our youth and the future why these memorials were erected. ***Leave the monument where it stands, and educate our children why it was erected—as a symbol of eternal RECONCILIATION.***

I offer these thoughts to you as a citizen whose soul aim is to make our Nation a great place to live for the current and future generations. My family and I are offended and outraged by the recommendation to remove Moses Ezekiel's Reconciliation Memorial, and I ask the Cemetery Advisory Committee to do all in its power to reject all efforts to remove this work of public art.

Very respectfully,
Lori Graham

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL
CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: *Sue Anne Boothe*

TITLE / AFFILIATION: *Private Citizen*

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I, Sue Anne Boothe, am submitting this statement because my family and I are deeply opposed to the Naming Commission's shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I am equally distressed by the lack of public participation throughout this process and the short notice provided to the public, which did not include the mandatory 15-day notice as required by law ahead of the March 15th meeting.

I am a patriot who believes *ALL* men are created equal and *racism and racial inequality have no place in the United States of America*. Removing memorials to Civil War dead—North and South—is disrespectful and tantamount to erasing history.

Arlington National Cemetery is unquestionably our Nation's most Sacred Shrine. Arlington's example should be one of inclusion and education, not exclusion and destruction of public art. The Civil War was the most tragic moment in our Nation's history. We owe it to posterity to educate our youth and the future why these memorials were erected. This Monument was placed with the support of both Union and Confederate Veterans to honor the reconciliation between the North and the South. Why are would we be opposed to this sentiment today? This effort is dishonorable and shameful. ***Leave the monument where it stands, and educate our children why it was erected—as a symbol of eternal reconciliation. Do not let this Memorial be removed because of this commission that went well beyond its mission.***

I offer these thoughts to you as a citizen whose sole aim is to make our Nation a great place to live for the current and future generations. My family and I are offended and outraged by the recommendation to remove Moses Ezekiel's Reconciliation Memorial, and I ask the Cemetery Advisory Committee to do all in its power to reject all efforts to remove this work of public art. I am so horrified that this is under consideration. It is a very sad day for our country.

Very respectfully,
Sue Anne Boothe

From: Leslie Mehaffey [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, March 12, 2023 1:25 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA) [REDACTED]
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

March 12, 2023

Leslie O Mehaffey
A Native Virginian

[REDACTED]

I, Leslie O. Mehaffey, am submitting this statement because my family and I are deeply opposed to the Naming Commission's shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I am equally distressed by the lack of public participation throughout this process and the short notice provided to the public, which did not include the mandatory 15-day notice as required by law ahead of the March 15th meeting.

I am a patriot who believes **ALL** men are created equal and **racism and racial inequality have no place in the United States of America.** Removing memorials to Civil War dead—North and South—is disrespectful and tantamount to erasing history.

Arlington National Cemetery is unquestionably our Nation's most Sacred Shrine. Arlington's example should be one of inclusion and education, not exclusion and destruction of public art. The Civil War was the most tragic moment in our Nation's history. We owe it to posterity to educate our youth and the future why these memorials were erected. **Leave the monument where it stands, and educate our children why it was erected—as a symbol of eternal reconciliation.**

I offer these thoughts to you as a citizen whose sole aim is to make our Nation a great place to live for the current and future generations. My family and I are offended and outraged by the recommendation to remove Moses Ezekiel's Reconciliation Memorial, and I ask the Cemetery Advisory Committee to do all in its power to reject all efforts to remove this work of public art.

Very respectfully,

Leslie O. Mehaffey

From: Gerry Waring [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, March 12, 2023 1:38 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA) [REDACTED]
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Arlington National Cemetery Reconciliation Memorial

Gerry Waring
Private citizen

Sir:

I am writing in opposition to the removal of this memorial in Arlington National Cemetery. It should remain as it now stands so that our countrymen and future generations understand the intention of its erection in 1914, that of reconciliation between North and South which was sorely needed at that time.

I am hopeful that the Cemetery Advisory Committee will take the long view of our country's history and reject any attempt to remove this reminder of the profound anguish our great nation suffered as it tried to move forward. We can't change what has happened in our history, but we should be willing to learn from it.

Thank you.

Respectfully,

Gerry Waring

Emily S. Williamson



March 12, 2023

I am opposed to the Naming Commission's recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I am troubled by the lack of public participation throughout this process and the short notice provided to the public.

I am a US citizen who believes a racism and racial inequality have no place in the United States of America. Removing memorials to Civil War dead, both North and South, is disrespectful and attempts to erase our shared United States history.

Arlington National Cemetery is a national shrine and must remain our national shrine, reflecting the entire history of our entire country. The Civil War was a tragic time in our history and should not be ignored. The monument must continue to stand as a symbol of eternal reconciliation.

I am offended and shocked by the recommendation to remove Moses Ezekiel's Reconciliation Memorial. Please reject all efforts to remove this work of public art.

Sincerely,

Emily S. Williamson

To Whom it may concern:

I am Jacqueline Sullivan, member of the United Daughters of the Confederacy and private citizen.



I, Jacqueline Sullivan, am submitting this statement because my family and I are deeply opposed to the Naming Commission's shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I am equally distressed by the lack of public participation throughout this process and the short notice provided to the public, which **did not** include the mandatory 15-day notice as required by law ahead of the March 15^h meeting.

I am a patriot who believes **ALL** men are created equal and **racism and racial inequality have no place in the United States of America.** Removing memorials to Civil War dead—North and South—is disrespectful and tantamount to erasing history.

Arlington National Cemetery is unquestionably our Nation's most Sacred Shrine. Arlington's example should be one of inclusion and education, not exclusion and destruction of public art. The Civil War was the most tragic moment in our Nation's history. We owe it to posterity to educate our youth and the future why these memorials were erected. **Leave the monument where it stands, and educate our children why it was erected—as a symbol of eternal reconciliation.**

I offer these thoughts to you as a citizen whose soul aim is to make our Nation a great place to live for the current and future generations. My family and I are offended and outraged by the recommendation to remove Moses Ezekiel's Reconciliation Memorial, and I ask the Cemetery Advisory Committee to do all in its power to **reject** all efforts to remove this work of public art.

Very respectfully,

Jacqueline Sullivan

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL

NAME: *Dianne Ponder*

TITLE / AFFILIATION: *Private Citizen*

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

I, Dianne Ponder, am submitting this statement because my family and I are deeply opposed to the Naming Commission's shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I am equally distressed by the lack of public participation throughout this process and the short notice provided to the public, which did not include the mandatory 15-day notice as required by law ahead of the March 15th meeting.

I am a patriot who believes **ALL** men are created equal and racism and racial inequality have no place in the United States of America. Removing memorials to Civil War dead—North and South—is disrespectful and tantamount to erasing history.

Arlington National Cemetery is unquestionably our Nation's most Sacred Shrine. Arlington's example should be one of inclusion and education, not exclusion and destruction of public art. The Civil War was the most tragic moment in our Nation's history. We owe it to posterity to educate our youth and the future why these memorials were erected. **Leave the monument where it stands, and educate our children why it was erected—as a symbol of eternal reconciliation.**

I offer these thoughts to you as a citizen whose sole aim is to make our Nation a great place to live for the current and future generations. My family and I are offended and outraged by the recommendation to remove Moses Ezekiel's Reconciliation Memorial, and I ask the Cemetery Advisory Committee to do all in its power to reject all efforts to remove this work of public art.

Very respectfully,

Dianne Ponder

From: sueann Sictor [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 8:59 PM
To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA) [REDACTED]
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Confederate Statue At Arlington

I am writing in regards to the removal of the Confederate statue at Arlington. I can not understand how this can be so offensive that we must remove it too. It is at a place where those who fought for what they believed in at that time in history was right. It represents members of family whose blood was spilled in a war against their brothers. Why can't it be a teaching tool, to say even though what they fought for may not have been correct they still need to be remembered. They were in battle; they were soldiers and they gave their life on American soil. Some where possible not educated enough to even know that what they were fighting for wasn't in the best interest of humanity. They were just following the interest of others, who needed the slaves to retain their way of life. Also, the statue is on Lee's own property, so where are his right or his descendants? According to the historians at the Independence hall on constitution day Jefferson was one of the first people to want to end slavery, but just like politics today, it was set aside to be spoken about at a different time. Others at the time did not want to bring that up and vote. So why not just get rid of all of his stuff too, since he didn't change anything at the time. When will it stop? When will it be enough? Why are we bending to people who want to erase history. It happened, it made us the country we are today!! We are always changing e and for the better, but this is not for the better. Our forefathers did so much for our countries and during their time slavery was alive! It doesn't make it right, but who's to say that things we do now will be seen as right in the future. We need to teach right from wrong not tear it down and remove and hid, that does nothing for anyone.

Sincerely,
Sueann Sictor

November 18, 2021

Arlington National Cemetery Advisory Committee
Arlington National Cemetery
1 Memorial Avenue,
Arlington, VA 22211

Dear Committee Members,

My name is Walter Kroptavich. On November 2021, I wrote a letter to the Executive Director of Arlington National Cemetery (ANC) and the Secretary of the Army concerning a matter I found in the July 2018 report of the full committee. In that report, it stated that “Field Grade Officers . . . demonstrat[ed] a higher lever of commitment to the Nation” solely because they spent more of their life to the military. I asked ANC to relook at this policy and it was met with silence, never to hear back from anyone ever again.

The problem with this previous statement is it ignores the problem of those whose careers were cut short and instead focuses on the rank situation that Sergeant First Class Durbin identified in 2008. Back then, he noted that a “2nd Lieutenant can die in a car accident 2 days after graduating Officer Candidate School and get a Full Honor Funeral, while a Master Sergeant in the Army, Air Force, Marine Corp, or Navy with 22 years of Service can die in Combat in Afghanistan or Iraq, receive a Silver Star for Valor, and receive a Standard Honor Funeral.” This situation was rectified in 2009 with a change in the burial honors policy for those who die in combat, but for no other enlisted service members outside of the Medal of Honor policy at that time.

In 2019, ANC changed the policy for military honors to limit full honors to those in equivalent grades of a field grade officer or above, and for E-9s, to reduce the backlog of full honors with military escort (full military honors) burials. While this policy would have solved also the situation SFC Durbin identified in his example, it also ignored those who were medically retired and might have achieved the ranks warranting full military honors but for their medical retirement.

Medical retirement is usually forced upon a service member. Those who are retired in this manner usually are unable to achieve the ranks warranting full military honors. Yet, this committee, none of which are on here now, mentioned directly that rank indicated a better demonstration of a higher commitment to the service of nation over someone medically retired in the rank of E6 who lost their leg and was forced out. That E6 might have achieved a rank of E-9 if they did not lose their leg. They may not as well. Regardless, the way the committee handled it back then is not the best way to describe a better demonstration of a higher commitment to the service of the nation. There are other commitments other than rank alone.

Let me also add another factor in the rank-based honors system. The rank-based honors system allows those with little or no combat experience or exposure to be able to serve longer than someone who served in an infantry unit. Those who serve in an infantry unit are far more likely to be injured in service and combat than a logistics officer who serves at the Pentagon for most of their career. Do we really want to show that a logistics officer who has 20 years of service has

shown more commitment than the E6 in an infantry unit who lost his leg saving three fellow soldiers and only received a Distinguished Service Cross? This is what the current policy shows. It shows more respect for that 20-year officer than those who sacrifice the most including their career.

Finally, let me note that the people who were on the advisory committee were all retired senior officers or senior executive service civilians at the time of this meeting. There was not one enlisted person on the committee, or at least present for the meeting, that decided to recommend the change in the burial honors policy. Even when there has been enlisted personnel on this committee, they have always been in the rank of E9. None of the changes impacted them.

I would ask that Arlington National Cemetery through this advisory committee reopen this topic for further discussion. Junior officers and all enlisted members who receive valor awards at or above a Silver Star and the Purple Heart should warrant at least the same level of honors as an E-9 regardless of rank. There are not that many people with these awards that would seek to be buried at ANC.

Additionally, with the upcoming burial eligibility changes likely to reduce the number of in-ground burials, it would be feasible to change this policy without adding to any backlogs in burials at ANC for this level of burial honors. It would allow for this change to be of minimal impact to resources the committee noted in 2018.

I am happy to work with the committee on looking at policy changes if so requested. I will leave my contact information with Mr. Davis to hold onto to ensure you can reach me if you needed to. I would also request this letter be placed into the formal record of the committee's proceedings for both the Honor Subcommittee and the Full Advisory Committee upcoming meetings.

Sincerely,

Walter Kroptavich

Walter Kroptavich
US Army Retiree

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Tuesday, March 21, 2023 10:05 AM

To: Davis, Matthew R CIV USARMY HQDA ANC OSA (USA) [REDACTED]

Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Arlington

Dear Sir: I received disturbing news that Confederate statues at Arlington Cemetery are under discussion. It is my assumption that since you are connected with the Army that you are concerned about every citizen of the United States. In fact I assume that you took an oath to that. I worked for the Federal Government in a top secret department. I made an oath to never tell or do anything to harm my government. That, of course, was over 70 years ago. I have kept that oath. I am a member of DAR which means my ancestors fought for the independence of our country. I am also a member of UDC - United Daughters of the Confederacy - which means that my family fought to protect their homes and families. My grandmother's father was a Capt. in the Union Army (from LA) - my mother's grandfather was a Private in the Confederacy (from AR). When the War Between the States ended the Capt. married a widow of a Confederate Soldier. THAT was America that both the North and South came to fight for in 1812 - WW1 and WW11 and every war since. I called the number listed for you and a woman (I could barely understand said that you were not listed and she did not know how to contact you.) I DO NOT WANT ANY STATUE DESTROYED AT ARLINGTON - the people who have so

viciously destroyed American History should be in jail - I am tired of the lawlessness and mean attitude of people who do not love America. PLEASE stop this madness. Laura Reed

--
President General
2022-2024