

July 14, 2020

Dear Mayor Kobrin  
and esteemed members of the City Council of Pensacola

Pensacola's extraordinary story from pre-history and on from the 1500's gives us a unique opportunity for finding the highest common interests of Pensacola and forging a unified and beneficial path forward in our community.

I know of no other American town or city which as yet recognizes and memorializes the sacrifices of the many persons who struggled to either free themselves (as native tribes and escaping slaves did) or govern themselves (a Confederate did) or to hold this territory in the name of a flag under which they served, whether we would see their objectives as right or wrong in the context of today.

Some died here, but, many died far from their original homes, never to return, and their life's blood is mingled in our soil.

The Confederate States of America was a government foreign to the United States of America, and here in Pensacola it occupied an area that had also, previously, been held or utilized by others including the Creek and Muskogee tribes, the Spanish, French, and British, in recorded history, before it was returned to the United States of America by the Confederacy's surrender in 1865 following the American Civil War.

Twenty six years after that surrender, 1891, Pensacola's monument to the Confederate dead was erected at the same time that other veterans' organizations, such as The Grand Army of the Republic (made up of Union Army, Navy, and Marine forces) were active. The Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.) whose peak membership, at 410,000, was in 1890, a high point of various Civil War commemorative and monument dedication ceremonies" (see Wikipedia: The Grand Army of the Republic) So, Pensacola's drive to recognize its dead did not occur in a southern vacuum - sentiments to recognize the dead were consistent across the U.S.A.

Unfortunately, we didn't honor the Union dead at that same time. At least two of their lives were lost here.

I perceive our monument to the Confederate dead, at what was then Florida Square, as a kind of cenotaph (empty tomb) in remembrance of family members and brethren in arms who died, often far from home and were usually buried or lay where they fell in those years.

But, the Confederate dead are only a part of our story; so are the Union troops (who rightly deserve a memorial at the Veterans' Memorial where Wall South is, and before that, the Deptford Culture (estimated at 10,000 years ago) the Creek, Muscogee and Creoles, the Spanish, French, British, African, Caribbean and other slaves and freemen and their descendants who gave "the last full measure" or had it taken from them here in Pensacola.

I submit we might use this discussion about the one existing monument to launch a plan to incorporate the statue portion in

a larger vision to observe the loss of other lives in that and other conflicts here.

Figurative statues humanize the face of what would otherwise be mere statistics.

The Palafix Pier's historical and educational value as a destination location could be greatly enhanced by figurative statues, all at the same, approachable height facing inward toward each other on the central lawn, memorializing a representation (in the same style) of each of the groups mentioned in this letter. I might even be inclined to include both black and white America suffragettes

Thank you for your trouble in reading and considering this.

## Don Kraher

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**From:** Tricia Spencer <deacontricia@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 12, 2020 2:48 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Statue comments

THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

Dear Mr. Kraher, Yesterday (Saturday) I sent you comments about moving the statue. In my haste, I didn't stop to look up the name St. Michael's cemetery. I just put xyz cemetery, but then sent the email without making the change. Please make taht change for me before you present the remarks to city council. I apologize for asking you to fix my remarks, but what I have to say would look ridiculous uncorrected. Thanks in advance.

4049 Alconbury Circle  
Pensacola, FL 32514  
July 10, 2020

Members of the Pensacola City Council  
City of Pensacola  
Pensacola, FL 32501

Dear Council Member:

I am writing to express my views about the Confederate Monument in Lee Square. I will say that I am opposed to removing it.

I came to Pensacola in 1981, from my hometown of Springfield, Illinois, to accept the position of University Archivist at UWF, heading the University Archives and West Florida History Center at the John C. Pace Library. Today this is the largest research collection devoted to Pensacola and West Florida in existence. I have degrees in American History and in Library Science as well as archives and preservation training from Ohio State University and the Ohio Historical Society. My ancestors part of the Union armies in the attack on Mobile and Spanish Fort. A distant relative of mine is Union General John A. Logan who founded Memorial Day. So yes, when I came to Pensacola, folks often referred to me as a "Yankee."

As an archivist and regional historian now for West Florida, I document the Civil War, especially in Pensacola and West Florida, helping to preserve family papers and historical records from both sides in the conflict. I have given many talks about how life in Pensacola is described in Union and Confederate soldiers' letters of the period.

When I gave tours of Pensacola as part of the Elderhostel program at the University of West Florida; these tours always began at the Confederate Monument. We have statues and monuments in Pensacola that tell our story; the founding (de Luna), the Revolutionary War (Galvez), becoming part of America (Andrew Jackson), as well as monuments to Vietnam, and our veterans. **The Confederate Monument in Lee Square is the only monument that we have that can be used to detail Pensacola's history of abolitionism and Civil War.**

At the Monument, we did not talk about Lost Causes, or turn Confederate leaders into heroes or martyrs. We talked about the terrible losses on both sides of the conflict. We talked about the battles surrounding Santa Rosa Island, Fort Pickens, Fort Barrancas, and how Pensacola and its citizens (who voted to remain in the Union in the 1860 election) were caught in the middle. I would talk about slavery and how Pensacola had a role in the abolishment of slavery. I **would also talk about:**

**Jonathan Walker.** In 1844, Jonathan Walker was captured off of Key West in a longboat with seven black slaves who he was taking to freedom. He was returned to Pensacola where the slaves were from; he was imprisoned, fined, and branded on his hand with the letters "S S" for slave stealer. He returned to the north and published his book "The Trial and Imprisonment of Jonathan Walker" . . . he went on the speaking circuit throughout New England, speaking

against slavery, showing his branded hand, and promoting abolitionism. America's poet at the time, John Greenleaf Whittier, wrote a poem "The Man with the Branded Hand." Walker's hand was one of the first body parts ever photographed in America in the late 1840s. I spoke on this on WSRE-TV and showed photographs of the hand several years ago. Through the actions of Pensacola and Walker, the anti-slavery movement spread widely in America.

**Sir John Lindsay.** I also talk about a British seaman, John Lindsay, who served in the West Florida squadron and was a frequently in Pensacola in the 1760s. Returning to England in 1765, Captain Lindsay brought with him his natural daughter Elizabeth, later baptized Dido Elizabeth Belle. She grew up in the household of William Murray, 1<sup>st</sup> Earl of Mansfield, who treated her as a daughter. Dido was the offspring of Lindsay and his slave Maria Bell. Lindsay, who had bought property in Pensacola, later transferred this property to Maria who had remained in Pensacola. It was unheard of that a child of a slave and a celebrated naval commander would grow up as an "adopted daughter" in a British household, and one of a titled nobleman. In 1772, a legal case came before Murray who was now Lord Chief Justice of England concerning slavery. Murray ruled that slavery had no basis in common law and had never been established by legislation in England. This decision was the first deciding blow that led to the abolishment of slavery in the entire British Empire. There is little doubt that the effects of an integrated household permitted the Chief Justice to see beyond prejudice and racism.

**Escape to Pensacola.** At the Monument I also talk about Pensacola's role in helping enslaved blacks. As historian Matthew Clavin has documented, Pensacola was a destination for escaped slaves. As a creole and mulatto community, escaped slaves and free blacks could walk the streets and not be accosted for papers or challenged. Many were hired by the U.S. Army to work on the forts (Pickens, Barrancas, etc.) or the U.S. Navy, the first integrated of the Armed Forces. As a port, ships were readily available to take escaped blacks to freedom in the North.

These are just some of the stories that use which are more powerful in the shadow of a Civil War monument and help my audiences to connect history with a visual architectural structure. It is the only Civil War visual connection that we have in the city.

My first preference is that it remain, but with removal of the inscriptions honoring Davis and Lee (two individuals who never came to Pensacola), and additions of such stories as I cite above. If it is removed, I implore you to move it to St. John's Cemetery; that would be appropriate and still leave a Civil War historical spot for tourists, discussions, and dialogue about all aspects of the Civil War in Pensacola. Thank you.

Cordially yours,

Dean DeBolt, M.A., M.L.I.S

## Don Kraher

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**From:** Charles L. Cetti <charlescetti@aim.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 6, 2020 7:20 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Proposals to Remove Confederate Monument and Rename Lee Square

THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

Hon. Jewel Cannada-Wynn, President  
and Member, Pensacola City Council; and,  
Members of Pensacola City Council,

This letter is submitted in response to 2 proposals before the Council: To remove the Confederate monument in Lee Square and to re-name it "Florida Square."

### Proposal to Remove Confederate Monument

This monument is very unusual if not unique. Every other Confederate monument I have seen has been to honor a Confederate general or politician. Although the people who caused this monument to be erected couldn't resist dedicating it to three Confederate politicians, it wasn't erected to honor them. And, although the monument says that the Confederate soldier fought for a "cause" in which he believed, that is patently untrue; those are their words, not those of the Confederate soldier

This monument is not to honor any of the politicians, plantation owners or Confederate generals. The large letters on the monument tell us whom it was intended to honor: OUR CONFEDERATE DEAD. It is topped with a statue of an ordinary, rank-and-file soldier. The Confederate soldier had no voice in whether to secede from the Union. That decision was made by the slave-owning plantation owners, wealthy businessmen and politicians. They are the ones who voted to secede or had their political lackeys do so.

When the war started, however, the poor fellow depicted on the top of this monument was conscripted by his government, pulled away from his farm, cobbler shop, blacksmith trade or other occupation; and, if a family man, he was pulled away from his wife and children. He was then given a uniform and a rifle and sent to fight the invading Northern army. He didn't sacrifice his life so he could keep his slaves---he didn't own any. And, he certainly didn't fight so that the plantation owners and other wealthy Southerners could keep theirs. He fought to protect his family, home, and occupational premises from a vastly superior, invading army.



Remember, that this was the same army that, under Union General William T. Sherman, made war on women and children by having his troops throw them out of their homes, loot and burn them, and then burn their crops and carry off their livestock. In many cases, they were left on the side of the road with nothing more than the clothes on their backs, and with no food, no shelter, and no money or other assets. Many of them died of disease and some of them starved. Sherman described this as his, "scorched earth policy." He attempted to justify this inhumanity by declaring that this would end the war sooner!

The Confederate soldiers fought to prevent exactly this sort of thing. That is why this monument was erected---to honor these soldiers who were sacrificed by their government for its unworthy cause, not for theirs. Once we understand this, it becomes clear that the monument is not a symbol of slavery or of legitimate racial offense: It is to honor the unfortunate husbands, fathers, sons and brothers who were forced to pay a terrible price for their government's folly. IT IS NOW UP TO YOU TO DECIDE WHETHER THESE FALLEN SOLDIERS WILL CONTINUE TO BE SO HONORED, OR WHETHER THEY WILL ONCE AGAIN BE SACRIFICED

### Proposal to Re-name Lee Square

By the phrase, **OUR** CONFEDERATE DEAD, the people who caused the monument to be erected were referring to Florida's Confederate dead; that's why originally it was intended to be located in Tallahassee. By changing the square's name back to "Florida Square," the intended purpose is made clear. Excellent idea.

### Conclusion

FOR THESE REASONS, MY SUGGESTION IS THAT WE KEEP THE MONUMENT BUT CHANGE THE NAME OF THE SQUARE BACK TO "FLORIDA SQUARE."

Respectfully submitted,

Charles L. Cetti  
(850) 944-7130

p.s. I am a native Pensacolian. I was born in 1941, in the old Sacred Heart Hospital on 12th Avenue. I am proud of our city, and, it is in that spirit that I offer my thoughts to you. Thank you for reading this.

## **Don Kraher**

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**From:** Joseph Zayas <jzayas5985@att.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2020 10:21 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Pensacola's Confederate Monument

THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

Dear Mr. Kraher:

Following the instructions in PNJ's Jim Little's article, I would like to submit this email to be read at the Pensacola City Council's July 14th meeting:

Dear Mayor Robinson and Pensacola City Council Members:

Pensacola is one of the most historical cities in the United States, dating back to 1559 with the Don Tristan DeLuna settlement. It has been known for many years as "The City of Five Flags". One of those flags is the flag of the Confederacy. I am Cuban-American and have been a Pensacola resident for 43 years, having come here from New York in 1977 to teach physics at Pensacola Jr. College (now Pensacola State), from which I retired in 2012, and to this day I have not lost my hispanic accent. I am very upset by the present effort (by many transplants, like myself) to tear down monuments that represent part of our great city's history. I view this effort as reminiscent of book burning. Whether we like it or not, Pensacola did have a Confederate Era. The South lost and in all 600,000 Americans perished in that war, which ended slavery in the United States forever. The monuments are there to remember those who died in that war. We have no right to tear down nor can we erase that period from Pensacola's history. We can learn from past mistakes and move forward into a more equitable future. I respectfully request that the monuments should be retained in place, and anyone caught defacing them should be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

Joseph M. Zayas  
5985 Keystone Road  
Pensacola, FL 32504  
jzayas5985@att.net

## Don Kraher

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**From:** lillyparkerdg@yahoo.com  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2020 11:46 PM  
**To:** Grover C. Robinson, IV; Jewel Cannada-Wynn; Ann Hill; John Jerralds; Jared Moore; Andy Terhaar; Sherri Myers; P.C. Wu; Don Kraher; Keith Wilkins; Susan Woolf; mthomas@escambia.k12.fl.us  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Read in Special Meeting 7-14-2020

THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

Please read this letter into the records.

I'd like to apologize to Mr Kraher and his team who have been burdened with reading these emails into the minutes during a global pandemic. Postponing this decision to a time when we weren't in a city-wide Code Yellow for Covid would have shown wise leadership, but instead you have "taken advantage of a crisis to push through your political agenda". The voters are not deceived.

Speaking of leadership, I was utterly humiliated to see my Mayor, forced to stand in the rain, in the middle of a federal highway as an unruly mob of criminals, yes, it's against the law to block a federal road, yelled in his face and made demands of him on local news and global social media.

Our public schools promote an anti-bullying message. You, Mr Mayor and the entire city council members have just dismantled every principal and teacher's difficult task to maintain order in our schools by COWERING to the bullying, mob rule mentality. Pathetic. The kids are pitching a fit in the candy aisle and each of you are tossing them candy. Where are the leaders? Where are the adults. Attached is the disgraceful display of cowardliness.

There is another side that wants to be heard, but we don't believe in civil disobedience, and will not block a road for our powerful, wealthy, voting voices to be heard. But just like in the War Against Northern Aggression, you might know it as the Civil War, when an oppressive government taxes its people without representation, "it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such government and to provide new Guards for their security" (Declaration of Independence quote). We will not be ruled by mob intimidation. We demand to be heard on this issue. We demand that Police Reform be a separate issue from destroying our heritage. How did the mob move from police reform to removing a statue? It's a political football and a Marxist agenda. Postpone this vote until after covid.

Mayor calls for Pensacola protests to move from Graffiti Bridge after traffic blockade



## Mayor calls for Pensacola protests to move from Graffiti Bridge after tr...

Pensacola Mayor E. Steven R. Johnson has urged for George Floyd protests in the city to move to a different location after...

## Don Kraher

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**From:** Brenda Arnold <barnold@hhma.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 12, 2020 5:17 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Confederate Monument at Lee Square

THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

Dear Mr. Don Kraher,

I am writing to ask that the following comments are to be read during the city council meeting regarding the confederate monument on Tuesday evening. Thank you for providing this opportunity to voice my opinion.

I am from several generations of lifelong Pensacolians and I grew up playing often in St. John's Cemetery on "G" Street while my mother and grandmother attended several family grave sites and my sisters and I fed the fish in the goldfish pond. Now, as an adult I take great pride and respect in the cemetery not only as a historical sacred place but also as a part of the surrounding community.

For several years I have volunteered doing grounds work at St. John's and have met several wonderful people from the neighborhood, many saying they take pride in the cemetery and see it as their own, some even doing grounds work. This respect by all for such a beautiful place has grown over the years and I hope it will continue.

A cemetery should be a sacred place, respected by all, free of any type of agenda especially anything that promotes inequality, historical past or present, against any race of people; in life as in death we all are equal. I strongly feel that a monument that memorializes the fight to continue the enslavement of a race of people does not belong in St. John's Cemetery.

Respectfully,

Brenda Arnold  
10168 Vixen Place,  
Pensacola, Fl. 32514

## Don Kraher

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**From:** Mary Stevens <marystevens827@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 12, 2020 6:30 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher; pwu@cityofpensacola.com; Sherri Myers; aterlear@cityofpensacola.com; Jared Moore; Jjeralds@cityofpensacola.com; Ann Hill  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Letter for July 14 Meeting

THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

Please read into the record

Please delay the vote\*Delay because it's been here for 130 years. What's a few more months. Why the rush?

\*Delay so both sides can be heard. It took almost 2 years of discussions from citizens regarding naming the \$420 million MEMORIAL 3 mile bridge to Gen Chappie James...an African American.

\*Delay because many on the other side need their voice heard without repercussions to their businesses for speaking out.

\*Delay because many on the side of keeping history are older and not as tech savvy to navigate a virtual meeting.

\*Delay until the civil unrest regarding police reform has settled.

Keep the cenotaph exactly where it is.

Thanks for your time and consideration. Mary Stevens

## Don Kraher

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**From:** Maggie Leiterman <maggielleiterman@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 12, 2020 7:00 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Please read my comments out loud at the meeting, thank you.

THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

Don Kraher,  
Please read my comments out loud at the meeting, and make them part of the written record of the meeting, thank you.

I don't want to see history erased because then our future generations will not know the history. Instead of removing monuments we need to be adding plaques and monuments to the same location that honor the people who were wronged! I say think what would happen if the concentration camps in Germany were torn down, would future generations believe they existed? Instead of tearing down the concentration camps they made them into monuments to the atrocities that the Nazis committed against an entire race of people. We should be doing the same for the atrocities committed against a race of people that were enslaved in the USA! For every monument glorifying a confederate entity there should be plaques and monuments resurrected at the same location that give homage to the people who were oppressed by slavery and perhaps by the entity depicted in the monument.

Sincerely,  
Maggie Leiterman

## Don Kraher

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**From:** tmiforu <fullyfaith333@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 12, 2020 11:02 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] The Lee Square Monument

**THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT**

I ask that this be read at the July 14, 2020 meeting and be part of the record.

City Council members, I believe that the monument should remain in Lee Square. Attempting to erase history does in no way remove it. History tells us that Gov. Perry's wife worked hard to have this to honor her husband, and the fallen soldiers. I think it's awful that anyone relates this monument to slavery. No one today, with even a speck of a brain, believes slavery was okay, much less believes it was something to be honored. We need to work together as a nation, as one people, as Americans to see that everyone is treated the same. Thank you, Katherine Kersey



## Don Kraher

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**From:** Shannon Pritchard <oldsouthantiques@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2020 6:15 AM  
**To:** Don Kraher; P.C. Wu; Sherri Myers; Andy Terhaar; Jared Moore; John Jerrals; Ann Hill; a-wynn@cityofpensacola.com  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Letter for 7/14 Special Meeting

THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

Please read into the record that the Pensacola officials who sat in their places 159 years ago asked young men to give up all the comforts of life, and perhaps life itself, and throw their bodies into the maelstrom to protect Pensacola and the State of Florida from an invader. They did not quibble, they answered the call. The mothers, wives and children offered their loved ones on the altar of freedom at their government's request. All of them suffered, and many of them died in answer that call, but they did it nobly and selflessly for four long terrible years.

Now, that same government is deciding whether those sacrifices should be honored or condemned. Shall you insult brave men and women who answered their governments call, even at the cost of life and limb? Cannot you be brave enough to stand up to the mob? It is little to ask of you that you take a stand in their defence, when they offered their lives for yours.

Regards,  
Shannon Pritchard

Scott Trotter, 300 Jamison St

I propose that rather than remove the monument, we transform it from a Confederate monument to a Civil War monument. The primary alteration would be in the inscriptions on the four sides of the monument. On the south side replace the commemoration of

Confederate soldiers with a commemoration of all Civil War soldiers. On the east side replace Jefferson Davis with an inscription memorializing the Battle of Pensacola in 1861. On the north side honor Abraham Lincoln for preserving the Union. Below that, inscribe the words "Our Union Dead." This matches the words, "Our Confederate Dead" that are currently on the south side. Finally, on the west side commemorate the liberation of Pensacola in 1862. I also propose renaming Lee square to Union Square to recognize the Civil War made the union stronger by eliminating slavery.

I propose this option because removing the monument will create a new series of problems. First, removing the monument will replace one set of aggrieved people with another. This compromise gives them something to hang their hat on and diffuse some of their anger. The second problem is what to do with the monument after it is removed. Putting it in a Cemetery doesn't solve the basic problem, Pensacola will still have a Confederate Monument. It simply changes the location of the protests.

Finally, it presents the problem of what to put in its place. That issue is likely to bedevil this council for years to come. I put this plan on Facebook and it's received a lot of support from people on both sides of the issue. I think this is an opportunity for us to come together, show we can still make compromises and meet in the middle to move forward as a community.

## **Don Kraher**

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**From:** Mark Essert <essertmark@bellsouth.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2020 7:24 AM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Civil War Statues

THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

Please read the following into the public record.

The Civil War statues and monuments should all be removed. The argument that removing them destroys or discounts our history is a false narrative. A perfect parallel is that of WW2. If you go to Germany or any European country you will not find any statues glorifying Hitler or the Nazi's. What historical monuments you do see are the concentration camps. Reminders of the inhumanity. Losers should not have the chance to rewrite history and white wash the death and destruction resulting from their ignoble cause.

If the statue of Robert E. Lee is kept then a bronze sculpture of a pile of dead, black bodies should be commissioned to lay at it's feet  
Take it down or tell the truth!

Mark Essert  
3201 Penifield Drive  
Pensacola, FL 32503

## Don Kraher

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**From:** charleseking@cox.net  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2020 7:25 AM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] READ ALOUD COMMENT

**Importance:** High

**THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT**

The Racists who have not erected Statues honoring their own Race should identify as Americans and direct their energy toward the real problems ( Black on Black Crimes & out of wedlock births )within their own capacity to better their Race's ( Negro ) image.

Charles King  
Pensacola, FL

## **Don Kraher**

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**From:** Stephanie Schwartz <swschwartz@webbelectric.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2020 7:51 AM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Cc:** Don Kraher; P.C. Wu; Sherri Myers; Andy Terhaar; Jared Moore; John Jerrals; Ann Hill; a-wynn@cityofpensacola.com  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Letter for 7/14 special meeting

**THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT**

"Please read into the record."

I am a 3<sup>rd</sup> generation citizen of Pensacola and I am asking only 2 things.

1. Do not to destroy my towns history in the form of removing the Lee Square Memorial.
2. Place the power of the memorials fate back into the hands of the people by putting it on the November ballot rather than making the decision yourselves.

By doing this you are free and clear of persecution from either side and the power of this decision falls into the hands where it so justly belongs. The people, the taxpayers, the citizens.

We deserve the right to choose what happens to our city. And if in November the popular vote is to remove it, then the democratic process will have done its job and The Lee Square Memorial can come down. But this was an issue created by the council, being voted on by the council and that does not coincide with the democratic process you swore to uphold.

I am against removing this monument that is dedicated to our fallen soldiers and I am asking you to put it on a ballet and let your fellow citizens vote.

Stephanie Webb Schwartz

## Don Kraher

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**From:** Eric Hanssen <eehanssen@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2020 7:59 AM  
**To:** Eric Hanssen  
**Cc:** Don Kraher; P.C. Wu; Sherri Myers; Andy Terhaar; Jared Moore; John Jerrals; Ann Hill; a-wynn@cityofpensacola.com  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Letter for 7/14 special meeting

**THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT**

Please read into the record.

I am a staunch supporter of our historical monuments/ Statues remaining where they are. I Do not support moving them, or tearing them down.

The Popular movement in this country to erase our history "Because it is offensive" to some, is a Dangerous and slippery slope that we need not go down!

This is but a brief moment in time, that I urge you to take pause, and slow down!

Statues that have stood for 100+ years deserve the benefit of a lengthy, thoughtful debate in which both sides can be heard.

The temperature & environment that the United States finds itself in currently is not the time to act hastily and erase out history at the demands of a small minority.

And I assure you it **IS A MINORITY!**

It may seem like a Loud voice to you, but that is because this MOB has taken the first amendment rights away from the majority of people.

Anyone working in corporate America must remain SILENT, at the risk of losing their jobs and their livelihood! This MOB will Attack, Besmirch, and destroy any voice that speaks against them!

Thanks,

**Eric Hanssen**

• President •

Hanssen Glass LLC.

7465 N. Palafox St. • Pensacola, FL 32503

Office: (850) 478-8222 • Cell: (850) 393-6538

Fax: (850) 478-8244

www.HanssenGlass.com



**Hanssen  
Glass LLC.**  
Commercial Division

## Don Kraher

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**From:** Lauren O'Connell <laurenoconnell.hgi@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2020 8:12 AM  
**To:** Don Kraher; P.C. Wu; Sherri Myers; Andy Terhaar; Jared Moore; John Jerrals; Ann Hill; a-wynn@cityofpensacola.com  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Letter for 7/14 special meeting

**THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT**

"Please read into the record."

Dear ELECTED Official

### To Erase History is to Erase Future Posterity

It is with a heavy heart that I write this Letter to you. I strongly urge you to not bow down to the demands of these "anarchist" and begin to dismantle our cities rich and colorful history. Pensacola is the Oldest settlement in North America it Has been Occupied and Waved the Flag of 5 Different Countries.

Pensacola Has the Honor of being the Home to Household names like Andrew Jackson, and Geronimo... As well as one of the first African American Mayors in the South Salvador Pons Forged from these shores is a Unique and prosperous community built by the sweat and tears of people of all cultures.

These Monuments serve as a reminder of that history where we have been and how far we have come. In the Infamous Words of Edmund Burke "Those who don't know history are doomed to repeat it."

DO not allow yourself to fall into the Emotional Persuasion of people's political agendas who don't even understand the depth of what they are "fighting" for.

Focus instead on the Beauty and Art that these Monuments represent. Let them Stand as a remembrance to the days when brother fought against brother and when families were divided, and blood was shed for a cause that people felt the need to die for.

How far are we really from being at each other's throats again and dividing this country...?

These monuments should instead be embraced and held up as symbols of where we as a country never want to be again.

To destroy a country's heritage and history is to destroy its heart and soul. This is the same tactics Terrorist groups like ISIS and AL Qaeda have demonstrated all over the world. The Nazis also destroyed Artifacts and Monuments all over the World.

Let us not Censor our people instead highlight our history and educate one another on the many Lessons Americans have learned throughout its Lifetime.



These Monuments have stood the test of time. remained intact through wars and devastating Hurricanes. Will we really let them fall to the socialist anarchist agenda currently fueling our country?

As an Elected Official it is your foremost duty to be a representative of the people. Well Pensacola is not New York City it is Not Chicago and these Monuments have existed here before you were Elected and Should Remain there once you are out of office. If you Vote to remove these Monuments that day may come sooner than Later...

Sincerely,

One Pensacola Native..

--

Lauren ( Hanssen )O'Connell

## Don Kraher

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**From:** DONALD R MCLAUGHLIN <drmclaughlin@bellsouth.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2020 8:19 AM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Monument Removal Comments to be Read at the City Council Meeting

**THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT**

Don Kraher....please have these comments read at the City Council Meeting tomorrow (Tuesday).

City Council and Mayor,

As a 71 yr old retiree of International Paper, and a PJC/UWF grad, I have spent my whole life in Pensacola.

I am **totally against** removing or changing the Confederate monument, or any monument in Pensacola. This is part of our local and U.S. history.

As a community, we do not need to fight the Civil War again--it's over. Good men fought on both sides back then and our community and nation should learn not to ever let our differences get so deep as to result in a war between us.

Taking down this monument is divisive to our community and promotes the racial unrest, not help it.

If the city council and mayor gives in to this group that want to remove or destroy this monument--what's next?? You and I both know there will be something next.....

Thank you for allowing me to express my opinion.

Don McLaughlin  
8502 Eight Mile Creek Rd  
Pensacola, FLA  
850-324 2384-cell

## Don Kraher

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**From:** Joe Szulczewski <szulczewski@cox.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2020 8:27 AM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Monuments

**THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT**

please read during council session

Joe Szulczewski

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Joe Szulczewski <szulczewski@cox.net>  
**Date:** July 13, 2020 at 8:24:12 AM CDT  
**To:** dkraher@cityofpensacola.com  
**Subject:** Monuments

The comparison between removing MLK monument and removing a confederate monument is akin to the analogy of day = night because they occur with in the 24 hour Day Period.

The MLK bust stand for freedom and equality for ALL. The Confederate monument was built to enshrine repression and division. The monument is a celebration and constant reminder that all people's are not equal. It was built during Jim Crow period and should be removed from a public space.

If someone or group wants the statue to celebrate their heritage of cruelty and segregation, they are welcome to move and maintain on private property.

My option removal will signify changing attitudes and a step forward in heal old wounds America has never come to terms with.

Joe Szulczewski

**Don Kraher**

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**From:** gailmtorres@aim.com  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2020 8:32 AM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Correction

THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

Mr. Raher,

I am resending this email with a slight wording correction that I didn't see when I wrote it. Please read this corrected version at the meeting.

Thank You.

Gail Torres

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Fellow Americans,

I was born a Yankee just 72 years ago. I moved to Pensacola , courtesy of Uncle Sam, 44 years ago and have grown to love this city with all its positives and negatives. I would not want to live any place else. I have watched as the city council and county commissioners made decisions that were usually sound and well thought out, considering all their constituents. Here is a possible solution to the controversy over our historic, beautiful Civil War monument that I believe would appease and satisfy all parties involved:

Leave the monument in place but remove the offensive wording and rededicate it to "Our Nations Civil War Dead." Then have the city council conduct a rededication ceremony where they

**REDEDICATE** the monument to all those soldiers and civilians who lost their lives during the bloodiest war our nation has even fought. (Current estimates of casualties 650,000 souls). Amen.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Torres

## **Don Kraher**

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**From:** Russell Edgar <russ1edgar@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 1:01 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Comment to read at City Council meeting

### **THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT**

#### **The Myth of Confederate Pensacola**

Since 1821, Pensacola has been a city proud to be part of the United States and a crucial part of the United States as a U. S. military stronghold, that at the time of the Civil War included Forts Barrancas, McRee, and Pickens.

Pensacola was never a city devoted to the Confederacy, and the notion that it was is a myth concocted years after the Civil War. Indeed, the Confederate attempt to establish even a foothold in Pensacola was half hearted, half measured, and brief.

History shows that in 1861, a small number of Confederate militia attempted to take Fort Barrancas, but were quickly rebuffed by Union soldiers. For months, Confederate militia, reinforced by other Confederate troops, continued to assault Union stronghold but failed after sustaining substantial losses. After less than eighteen months, the bulk of Confederate troops that had occupied the city, evacuated, and never returned; Confederate troops that remained, quickly surrendered.

History also shows that when Confederate troops fled, the City cheerfully welcomed Union forces. Union naval officer, David Dixon Porter, wrote of the happy surrender of the City by the Mayor of Pensacola to Union forces who said:

I am Mr. Brosnaham, gentlemen, a leading citizen of Pensacola, who for the past year have dwelt beneath the folds of an alien flag and who have been despoiled of my goods and chattels worse than the Egyptians were of old. I welcome you to this loyal city, where I hope the tramp of the rebel hosts will never more be heard, and that we never again be deprived of that dear flag which has sheltered me from boyhood, and of which I have dreamed every night since it was replaced by that meaningless rag which no one could respect, much less revere.

The history of Pensacola is the history of a city that since 1821 has been a crucial part of the United States of America. Pensacola is the cradle of United States Naval Aviation, not the cradle of a mythical Confederate Air Force. Pensacola is the home of the Blue Angels, not some mythical Gray Angels.

My family has been in the south for over 300 years, and although I had relatives who fought in the Civil war, when the war was over they put aside their partisanship. My father, my uncles, and I have served in the the United States armed forces for generations, and now my only son serves in the United States Navy.

I am reminded by this effort to keep the Confederate memorial of when I was an Air Force officer cadet in the sixties. During our training at Gunter AFB, Alabama, all cadets were invited to meet with George Wallace, the infamous segregationist governor of Alabama. Cadets who met with George Wallace received an autographed commission in the Confederate Air Force.

I refused the invitation and would never accept such a commission, however nostalgic or even whimsical it might be because I had sworn an oath to support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies and refused then and will always refuse to betray the United States, which my family and I have served, to follow a lost cause that rose up in armed rebellion against our country.

Our City should refuse to betray the history of Pensacola and the history of our country, by removing monuments that celebrate treason and a mythical past. Instead, our should celebrate and venerate the United States of America, which Pensacola has always supported and which, through its military installations, defends and supports this City.

Join me and pledge to serve the United States and let's forsake the icons of the Confederacy.

Russell G. Edgar

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Sent from Gmail Mobile

## Don Kraher

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**From:** Peter Steenblik <psteenblik@uwf.edu>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 1:08 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Cc:** John Jerrals  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Confederate Monument

**THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT**

I request that the following comment be read aloud into the record during the City Council meeting to be held July 14, 2020.

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Councilmembers Cannada-Wynn, Hill, Jerrals, Moore, Myers, Terhaar, and Wu,

Tonight you have the rare opportunity to positively correct course and take steps toward reparations. Admittedly, I am a transplant, a white male having moved here in recent years. However, when friends and family inquire of the cultural climate in my newly (and proudly) adopted city, I often cite the very existence of Lee Square and the placement of the post-reconstruction Confederate Monument at the highest point of the downtown area as evidence of prolonged, visceral, and pernicious attitudes of white superiority. As expressed in a 1960 edition of *The Southern School News*, "Pensacola [is] at the tip of the state's Northwest Panhandle, where segregation sentiment is strongest." For more than a century, there has been strong evidence of white power systems in this area retaining positions of privilege without explicitly declaring superiority. This monument does both. I urge you, as a respectful citizen of this great and treasured city, remove the monument **Now**.

Dr. Peter Steenblik

Resident of East Hill

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Dr. Peter Steenblik  
Director of Choral Activities  
University of West Florida  
Bldg. 82 / Rm. 217  
office: 850-474-2183  
[psteenblik@uwf.edu](mailto:psteenblik@uwf.edu) | [www.uwfsingers.com](http://www.uwfsingers.com)

**The art of CHOIR has two objectives: 1) music-making, and 2) community. While music-making is on hold for the time being, let us not forget the 2nd, and more important aspect of community. Take care of each other. We can do this.**

For additional information, please visit [www.uwfsingers.com](http://www.uwfsingers.com)



## Don Kraher

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**From:** RITA ROSE <1originalrose@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 10, 2020 2:40 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] statue removal

THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

My name is Rita Rose . I am but one voice . Praying I will not be the only one . I am outraged over the removal of all our HISTORY. The radicals that want to do nothing but tear down & destroy our monuments just to get what they demand is absurd. When is this going to stop ? You give them everything they ask for and they are not satisfied. they only want more. What in the world is wrong with this picture ? Is everyone afraid to tell the radicals & activist NO? I understand you are wanting to take our monuments and move them to a museum where they will be safe . Has it ever occurred to you, people may not go to museums. They would like to take a Sunday drive and be able to look at our statues & a little bit of history surrounding Pensacola. I had much rather look at a Confederate Solder than the ridiculous pelican statues surrounding downtown. If you are going to remove our confederate statue then also remove the bust of M.L.K.JR. (which would be a shame) I admire M.L.K. for what He did & what He stood for. His actions were peaceful. Unlike everything going on in this world today. This is my opinion. Thank You

## Don Kraher

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**From:** joel may <joelterrismay@live.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 10, 2020 2:46 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Pensacola's Memorial to Confederate Dead

**THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT**

Gentlemen,

I wish to express, with absolute sincerity and total respect, my sentiments regarding the Memorial to the Confederate Dead of our community.

It is no secret that our ancestors answered the call to duty by the State of Florida and the surrounding communities of Escambia county, and fought on the side of the Confederacy. Very few of the young men that made the ultimate sacrifice were slaveholders, but they did what was expected, and required of them by their State, and their peers. Until recently we celebrated our history, proclaiming ourselves the City of Five Flags; however, now we omit the one flag as if our forefathers were a scourge to be blotted out of history.

I commit we tell the whole story, including the period of history that we thankfully rectified with the great sacrifice of life from all corners of our great nation. Palafox has become a street of recognition of past historical figures: King, Galvez, Jackson and de Luna. One we remove one, there will be another, and another. Let's tide the torrent and be recognized by other great cities for telling the whole truth, and preserve history and tell it all.

Thank you for hearing this plea.

Sincerely,

Joel Terry May

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## Don Kraher

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**From:** Sean Gravel <skg12b@my.fsu.edu>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 10, 2020 6:11 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Confederate monument

### THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

I hope it is not too late to voice my opinion. I only just saw the news article about sharing our opinions. While I no longer live in Pensacola (I moved for work) I lived in the Pensacola area most of my life.

The first thought I would make is I always enjoyed how the Confederate monument is just a short walk away from the Martin Luther King, Jr. Monument. To me that always symbolized reconciliation in our community. Tear one monument down and you are once again raising one group above another.

As for the monument itself, it is worth noting that while the Civil War was caused by slavery it was not fought over slavery. Abraham Lincoln was elected on a campaign to exclude slavery from newly acquired territories, not States where it already existed. Despite this hothead pro slavery activists convinced voters in 7 of the 15 slave States to vote to secede from the Union.

However, many statesmen of the day believed that States legally could secede from the Union. The Constitution does not directly address the issue and at the time the Supreme Court had not ruled on it, so they believed that the 10th Amendment's declaration of the States' reserved powers protected a right to secede. The other 8 slave States voted to stay in the Union, either because they realized that Lincoln was no threat to slavery, because as future Confederate VP said slavery was better protected in Union than out of it, or because they felt that the Union was more important than slavery. These 8 States while voting to stay in Union said to let our erring sisters leave in peace.

While the South believed that States could legally secede Lincoln firmly believed that they could not. After the dispute over Fort Sumter's ownership led to violence Lincoln called for troops, not to abolish slavery, but to keep the South in the Union. This call for troops changed the minds of voters in 4 more slave States who joined the CSA. Thus the war was fought over the legal issue of if a State could secede. Some Confederate military leaders like Robert E. Lee and James Longstreet personally hated slavery, but they fought to defend their States from invasion.

Lincoln declared in an 1862 letter that this was a war to save the Union, not a war to save or abolish slavery. He stated that if he could save the Union without freeing a single slave he would do it, if he could save the Union by freeing all the slaves he would do that, and if he could do so by freeing some and not others he would do that.

Throughout the war Lincoln tried all 3 strategies. At the start of the war he endorsed a constitutional amendment that would have protected slavery in States where it already existed. That didn't work, so in September 1862 he issued the preliminary Emancipation Proclamation declaring that if the South did not return to the Union he would free their slaves. January 1, 1863 he carried out that threat and issued the Emancipation Proclamation freeing only slaves under Confederate control. It was not until late 1864 that he decided that it was best to end slavery everywhere and endorsed what became the actual 13th Amendment abolishing slavery nationwide. Ironically by seceding to protect slavery the South brought about its destruction.

Based on the above facts it is most accurate to say that the Civil War was caused by slavery in that slavery triggered the first wave of secession, but it was not fought over slavery as both Lincoln himself said it was fought over the legality of secession and the average soldier was not motivated by slavery. The average soldier fought to preserve his "country" as he understood it, so I think it proper to honor the Confederate soldiers who fought to defend their homes. However, the

monument also serves as a grim reminder of our nation's history of racial discrimination and should inspire us to do better.

Thank you for providing a platform to share these views.

Sincerely,

Sean Gravel

**Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE Device**  
**Get [Outlook for Android](#)**

## **Don Kraher**

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**From:** sterling leonard <slfc80525@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 11, 2020 8:00 AM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Request that the letter be read during confederate monument meeting

THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

To the People of Pensacola

The Coliseum in Rome is history that in essence is like the famed Auschwitz concentration camp. People were fed to lions and people were gassed almost to extinction, but we keep these iconic places around to remind us not to make the same mistake again. It's called history. Something a lot of my fellow citizens are scared witless over. If you want to destroy history just remember what the Chinese did in the beginning of the nineteenth century. They burned 99% of all the books about they're illustrious history. If you remove history you're not only worse than our oriental brethren your erasing history that can never be learned from again. When I first came to downtown Pensacola I learned about all the different cultures that existed here over a 600 year period. I actually stopped and parked near the monument in question and was awed by the size. I read the plaque thinking about the people who wrote this and how the lives of those people were represented, not how I hated every faucet of their being to the point of wanting to tear down this structure. Hatred of history is racism in itself because the very term cannot be defined without the other. So while your all wasting each others time discussing the obvious solution that would satisfy all. The solution: build another monument right next to the one on Lee street and make it bigger with a statue of Martin Luther or Malcom or Chappie and stop this God awful hating of our past. Hell construct a giant peace symbol with flower girl for this might be the most appropriate for the haters. We our a nation of builders not destroyers.

Sincerely,

Sterling Arthur Leonard

Pensacola Florida

**-Sterling Arthur Leonard**  
**-Pensacola, Florida 32504**  
**-slfc80525@yahoo.com**

## Don Kraher

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**From:** zachery foxx <pionex\_123456@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 11, 2020 10:23 AM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] confederate statue

THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

please read during the meeting, thank you.

i may have a solution that both sides may find acceptable, it is just a suggestion take it or leave it :

the statue and base remain as it is, EXCEPT, the text from 3 sides are removed, i believe the MAIN text in the front part SHOULD remain, everything else is expendable, BUT, BEFORE it is removed it is copied and the copy is placed in a museum and the text removed is replaced with a statement how and why the changes are made. the symbol remains to make the same statement that many Jewish holocaust survivors remember, one that resonates even to today the words NEVER AGAIN, the statue can become a symbol to those who were lost during slavery AND the war, the same way Auschwitz and Buchenwald still stand today, as a reminder of what was done WAS DONE, and the statue remains to be a lesson to the future, remember the past, but NEVER allow it to be repeated, the past can be remembered as a lesson or just as a memory, take away the proof of what happened, then it will only become a memory, eventually memories fade over time but with the past staring you in the face, it and they, will be remembered.

## Don Kraher

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**From:** wodom@armadaadvisors.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 1:27 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] To be read aloud at the Special Meeting

### **THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT**

From: Wesley Odom, Pensacola resident

Our city's Confederate Monument originally was erected to honor our Confederate dead. As Edward A. Perry wrote in 1881: "They gave their lives to a cause, which however it may be regarded now, was then our cause." In every speech for the monuments dedication ceremony in 1891, there were numerous references how the Civil War was regrettable, how we are a "united country to which our allegiance is due", and lastly, that this monument "shall tell to coming generations of the love which Pensacolians of this day bore for the South's defenders."

This monument remained a natural place place for surviving veterans to be photographed and even for families to visit because the remains of their loved ones were often in ditches on distant battlefields.

Over time the KKK and other groups--even now--have attempted to reappropriate our monument to the dead for political purposes. They wrongly associate it with racially charged language to inflame people's spirits, causing us to forget the fallen soldiers and the grieving families and community.

Such attempts make me wonder if our city's 9-11 statue will one day be condemned as anti-Muslim and there will be calls for its destruction, but in reality, it is a monument to those who died on September 11, 2001. We must be careful!

I personally would prefer to see the our Confederate monument remain looking south toward the MLK, Jr. statue. For me the placement of the two are tragedies. One statue teaches the beginning of a story, and the other statue helps complete that story. Regrettably, both statues honors men who sacrificed all. If the monument is moved, however, please move it to St. John's Cemetery, where our Confederate dead may rest in peace.

## Don Kraher

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**From:** Janelle C <claglobal2017@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 5:17 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: updated 2 min input for Confederate Monument forum - 14 Jul 2020

### THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

Name: Janelle Conway

Residence: Mary Esther, FL

Note: I am able to present the following input within the 2 minute limit. Please read the input in its entirety and do not cut it off due to a reader who may read slowly.

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When a person or an institution has done something wrong, has done something hurtful, or even illegal, it is important to admit the wrong, to assure restitution, and seek forgiveness. The confederate states were forgiven their rebellion against the United States government, because we as a country needed to reconcile and heal. However, in no part of this process is it necessary, mature, or helpful, to glorify symbols of the wrongdoing. The south, the former confederate states were *forgiven* for being traitors. However, *forgiveness* and *glorification* are incredibly distinct. Confederate monuments, and naming places after Confederate soldiers and officers, is *glorifying* the confederacy that sought to divide our country.

Beyond quibbles of wording as to what was and was not explicitly spelled out in the articles of the confederation regarding slavery, the south is known historically for slave ownership and for an economy that relied on the slave labor of our fellow beings. It is incumbent upon us to remember the events and actors of our Civil War in history books, and to only erect monuments and name places after individuals and institutions that do not represent division and injustice. Furthermore, we must recognize our biases and the racist influences that wrote our history books, and were prevalent and permeated every event that we did, and did not learn about in our schools, in our upbringings. We must not allow our history to be written by bigots and racists like the United Daughters of the Confederacy and Mildred Lewis Rutherford, whose widely used textbook guide instructed schools and libraries across the former confederacy to, among other things, reject any "book that speaks of the slaveholder of the South as cruel and unjust to his slaves." ([A measuring rod to test text books, and reference books in schools, colleges, and libraries](#)). I have been racist, and I am still racist in some ways. I do not deal with my racism and my bias by ignoring it and standing up for the racist status quo that raised me with my biases. [I deal with my racism by admitting it, confronting it, and seeking to take every step and measure I can to unlearn my prejudices, to acknowledge my privileges, to become as anti-racist as possible, and to take action to make this world a more just place. A more just world is one in which we remove monuments and place names glorifying the divisive confederate states, and the soldiers that fought to uphold that division.](#)



## Don Kraher

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**From:** Bree Gallion <breemcnair@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 1:34 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Pensacola City Council Meeting "Comment"

**THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT**

Good afternoon Mr. Kraher,

I would like my comments to be read aloud at the upcoming meeting concerning the Confederate War Memorial in Pensacola. Please read as follows:

I am proud to be an American citizen. I am proud of this great nation which God has blessed since its founding. I am thankful for the battle scars (including monuments) which remind us of how brother fought against brother during the War between the states. Yes, I believe the issue of slavery and property rights were bound together in that bloody rivalry. I am thankful for the lessons that we can learn and teach from the remnant landmarks like this monument. I believe that good triumphed over evil in that struggle. I also believe that this monument ( a tribute to the Confederate soldiers who died) must be preserved so that we may remember both the victory over evil, and all who fought. The men who died on both sides were brethren. Both sides were fighting out of duty and loyalty, and although some would condemn all men of the South from that era, we must not forget their existence. No man in history has ever been deemed perfectly moral, except one, Jesus Christ. To condemn all of the men of the Confederacy, is to condemn every American citizen. Mistakes were made, but our nation received a second chance. Let us not forget any of the American men who fought in that war by removing one of the last remnants of our Civil War history.

## Don Kraher

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**From:** Ladies Memorial Association FL <ladiesmemorialassociationfl@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 2:29 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Statement to Pensacola Council for 7/14/2020 Meeting

THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

Because of the Pandemic, please read this email into the record at today's meeting. Thank you.

God day,

In considering your decision today, please remember the following:

*W. Bond - Killed at Gettysburg*  
*F.M. Bower - Killed at Spottsylvania*  
*Frank Byrnes - Killed at Seven Pines*  
*H. Church - Killed in Seven Days Battle*  
*J.P. Clark - Killed at Seven Pines*  
*C.E. Cooper - Killed at Sharpsburg*  
*J. Cunningham - Killed at Frazier's farm*  
*D.H. Deer - Mortally wounded at Gaines Farm*  
*A.B. Dixon - Died at St. Charles Hospital*  
*W. Flourney - Killed at Sharpsburg*  
*T. Flowers - Killed at Gettysburg*  
*J.B. Floyd - Died as a POW - Ft. Delaware*  
*W.A. Gee - Killed at Sharpsburg*  
*J. Gerard - Killed at Williamsburg*  
*J. Gleason - Killed at Gettysburg*  
*B. Juilan - Killed in Seven Days battle*  
*D.M. Knight - Killed at Gettysburg*  
*J.C. Knight - Killed at Chancellorsville*  
*James T. Luckie - Killed at the Wilderness*  
*J.L. McKindlay - Killed at Sharpsburg*  
*J.T. Merritt - Killed at Williamsburg*  
*T.N. Rosson - Killed at Ellison's Mill*  
*J. Sherman - Killed at Williamsburg*  
*C.S. Shippey - Killed at Seven Pines*  
*S. Way - Killed at Williamsburg*

These Pensacolians are the reason why this Cenotaph was erected.

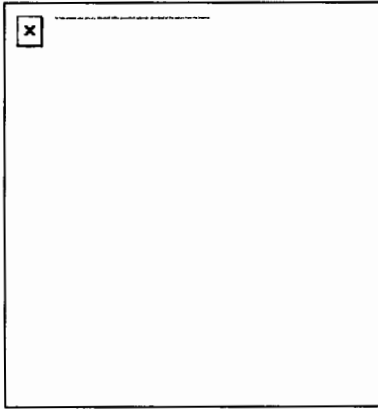
It is immoral and illegal to touch it.

--

**Ladies Memorial Association**

Facebook

888-351-3330



## Don Kraher

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**From:** Alexandra Tredway <alexltredway@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 2:30 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Comment Regarding Lee Square Monument

THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

Please read the following comment at the Pensacola City Council meeting:

My name is Alex Tredway and I live five minutes away from the Lee Square monument. It saddens me this statue was erected in almost 60 years ago to remember the confederate army soldiers that fought to own slaves in the Civil War that occurred 100 years prior. The KKK then publicly marched to this monument not long after as it aligned with their values of white supremacy. No race is supreme. We are All equal and must continue to work towards being treated equally. Monuments in Pensacola should reflect people and ideas that make the world a better place. There are so many artists in our area that could create a new statue, monument, or sculpture from which everyone can gain joy and inspiration. We should not keep a monument that hurts black people and represents white supremacy. It's a shameful monument that makes the city of Pensacola appear ignorant and racist.

## Don Kraher

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**From:** Save Their Honor <savetheirhonor@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 2:51 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Cc:** Andy Strickland; Mike Hill  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Today's City Commission Meeting on Lee Square/Confederate Monument

**THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT**

Please read this in the record today for the Public meeting. Thank you.

The Memorial you are discussing today is a memorial to fallen veterans. These veterans, were posthumously, recognized by multiple acts of Congress to be American veterans, entitled to all benefits. Their compatriots are interred in Arlington National Cemetery. Their graves, if we knew where they were, would be entitled to a Veterans Administration Headstone.

We add our voice to other Veterans and veterans organizations around the nation who find the very consideration of these proposals before you are offensive and a slap in the face to dead veterans.

How yesterday' veterans are treated today signal to today's generation how they will be treated tomorrow.

Pensacola is a military town. This is a BAD message to send.

Save their honor. Veterans Served They Deserve Respect

Thank you.

--

Save Their Honor  
[www.savetheirhonor.org](http://www.savetheirhonor.org)



Please read this aloud during the upcoming City Council meeting.

Grady Swann, 700 Blk of West Chase Street

Welcome to the City of Pensacola, One Flag, One people.

We must take action to bring people together instead of pushing them further apart. In Pensacola, we can begin by changing the City's motto from the "City of Five Flags" to the City of One Flag, the stars and stripes, and One People, all ethnicities. We should also leave the "Our Confederate Dead" monument exactly where it rests today; at its prominent and fitting location on Gage Hill.

The two most pivotal events in U.S. American history are the American Revolution and the American Civil War. Each of these events are currently commemorated on Gage Hill. Gage Hill is the former location of Fort George. In the spring of 1781, the Spanish accepted the surrender of the British Army at Fort George. The Spanish campaign to take Pensacola and other British holdings in the south diverted valuable British military resources away from the New England campaign, helping facilitate the defeat and surrender of the British army at Yorktown, Virginia later that same year. The British defeat in Pensacola in the spring of 1781 played an important part in America gaining its independence from England and the subsequent formation of the United States of America.

The Civil War that occurred between 1861 and 1865 was America's most violent conflict resulting in over 600,000 American military deaths. Half of those casualties were from the Confederate States of America, many never to return home. Numerous advancements in American civilization materialized out of this carnage. The Civil War enlightened us to the fact that violent conflict between Americans is not the way to resolve our differences; that the union of the United States of America must be preserved at all cost; and, that slavery of any people must not be tolerated. The elimination of slavery paved the way to the eventual promulgation of Civil Rights legislation that captivated the spirit behind the phrase "that all men are created equal", as stated in the American Declaration of Independence of 1776 and Lincoln's Gettysburg Address of 1863.

You do not change peoples' hearts by censoring, sanitizing, and whitewashing history. We, as individuals, all have a history which is to our advantage to remember. We remember our personal history, good and bad, so that we do not repeat our failures and that we capitalize on our successes. The same holds true by remembering our history as a civilization. Preserving and not altering a civilization's history allows that civilization to understand the present and predict its (Our) future.

Because of the recent BLM movement, we are further enlightened on the pain of racism that exists in our country. We must take action to expand upon our public history to better understand the present and predict the future as they relate to racism. Instead of removing or relocating the "Our Confederate Dead" monument, we should expand upon Our story at that location to demonstrate the struggles, failures and successes of Civil Rights that have occurred since the Civil War. Gage Hill is a unique piece of real estate that if properly developed into an outdoor educational facility can provide a venue for visitors and area citizens to learn about the events that took place in Pensacola between 1776 and the present to further the concept that all men are created equal and should therefore be treated equally

under the Law. We have an opportunity to show other parts of the county that Pensacola was not only the first to be settled, but also the first to bring the diverse ethnicities of its citizenry together to improve Pensacola's future without sacrificing its past. Pensacola- One Flag One People.

ReplyForward

## Don Kraher

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**From:** Walter Swann <wswann582@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2020 9:26 AM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Confederate War Memorial

**THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT**

Please read this aloud during the upcoming City Council meeting.

Grady Swann, 700 Blk of West Chase Street

Welcome to the City of Pensacola, One Flag, One people.

We must take action to bring people together instead of pushing them further apart. In Pensac City's motto from the "City of Five Flags" to the City of One Flag, the stars and stripes, and On should also leave the "Our Confederate Dead" monument exactly where it rests today; at its pr Gage Hill.

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You do not change peoples' hearts by censoring, sanitizing, and whitewashing history. We, as which is to our advantage to remember. We remember our personal history, good and bad, so and that we capitalize on our successes. The same holds true by remembering our history as altering a civilization's history allows that civilization to understand the present and predict its (

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citizens to learn about the events that took place in Pensacola between 1776 and the present are created equal and should therefore be treated equally under the Law. We have an opportunity to improve Pensacola's future without sacrificing its past. Pensacola- One Flag One People.



## Don Kraher

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**From:** Liz Merriweather <elizabethmerriweather@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2020 9:26 AM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Confederate Statue

THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

Greetings and thank you for reading my comment aloud. I am a Caucasian female who grew up in Michigan. I didn't know that confederate statues even existed until meeting and marrying my Black husband from Kentucky in 2009. We walked the shores of the Mississippi River in Louisville and I began to understand the history of slavery from the Black perspective for the first time. As we began traveling through the South; South Carolina, Tennessee, Georgia, Mississippi and Florida I started to understand what growing up Black in America meant and means today. I'm an educated woman with a Masters degree and have been a psychotherapist for over two decades but my former ignorance shames me. I didn't know what I didn't know. I learned in my very Caucasian Michigan school district that the effects of slavery were in the past. I've shed so many tears since moving to the South as I've realized how untrue that is. Today, when I see a confederate statue I have a literal pain in my chest and tears well up in my eyes. It's unfathomable to me that in 2020 these type of statues are not in a museum and put into historical context such as only a museum can do. The backstories need to be told along with the visual of the statue. They have no place in public view where, simply by going about everyday life, they cannot be avoided. I should not have to experience pain just by doing business in Pensacola. Black lives matter doesn't mean other lives don't. It's a rallying call for us all to make efforts to arrive at the day where black lives matter as much as white lives matter. Remove the statue and destroy it or put it in a museum and tell the backstory. Thank you for listening.  
Elizabeth Merriweather

## Don Kraher

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**From:** Richard Brown <irick11@att.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2020 9:28 AM  
**To:** Don Kraher; P.C. Wu; Sherri Myers; Andy Terhaar; Jared Moore; John Jerralds; Ann Hill; a-wynn@cityofpensacola.com  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Letter for 7/14 special meeting

THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

Please read into the record.

\*Please, delay because all this undue stress on city staff and council members weakens their immune system and many are in the AT RISK age. Kraher having to read emails in a mask for 3+ hours is unhealthy and dangerous.

And, because it's been here for 130 years what's a few more months. Why the rush?

Delay so both sides can be heard. It took almost 2 years of discussions from citizens regarding naming the \$420 million MEMORIAL 3 mile bridge to Gen Chappie James...an African American.

Delay because many on the other side need their voice heard without repercussions to their businesses for speaking out.

Delay because many on the side of keeping history are older and not as tech savvy to navigate a virtual meeting.

\*Please, delay until the civil unrest regarding police reform has settled. Albeit, these 2 issues are not related.

PLEASE, keep this monument where it is. It is HISTORICAL, NOT RACIAL. This is the FIRST SETTLEMENT IN AMERICA AND FULL OF HISTORY. Please, keep HISTORY in it's place.

R.Brown

**Don Kraher**

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**From:** Peter B <panayotib@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2020 9:49 AM  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Letter for 7/14 special meeting

**THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT**

"Please read into the record."

Delay because it's been here for 130 years, what's a few more months. Why the rush? Also so both sides can be heard. It took almost 2 years of discussions from citizens regarding naming the \$420 million MEMORIAL 3 mile bridge to Gen Chappie James...an African American.

Delay until the civil unrest regarding police reform has settled. The 2 issues are not related

This is part of our History leave it alone, if someone doesn't like it then they shouldn't drive by it. Be strong and pray to God for guidance

--

**Thank You & God Bless,  
Chris**

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**Don Kraher**

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**From:** yotip@aol.com  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2020 9:54 AM  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Letter for 7/14 special meeting

**THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT**

"Please read into the record."

Delay because it's been here for 130 years what's a few more months. Why the rush? Also so both sides can be heard. It took almost 2 years of discussions from citizens regarding naming the \$420 million MEMORIAL 3 mile/Pensacola Bay bridge to Gen Chappie James...an African American.  
Delay until the civil unrest regarding police reform has settled . The 2 issues are not related. (may God protect our police)  
Leave our History alone. Pray to God for guidance

**Thank You & God Bless,  
Peter**

**NOTICE: This email message is for the sole use of the intended recipient(s) and may contain confidential and privileged information. Any unauthorized review, use, disclosure or distribution is prohibited. If you are not intended recipient, please contact sender by reply email and destroy all copies of the original message.**

## Don Kraher

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**From:** Dave Markham <heritagenothate1559@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2020 10:50 AM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Letter for 7/14 Special Meeting to be read into Record

**THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT**  
**PLEASE READ INTO THE RECORD AT 7/14 CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING**

Dear City Council,

With a city-wide Code Yellow from Covid-19, economic turmoil, police reform, BLM and civil unrest, now is not the time to make a rash decision on monuments in our historically rich town and it should be delayed. Pensacola touts being "First City"... before St. Augustine. We are the Tip of the Spear for preservation of history and rich cultural heritage and need to make sure we get it right. We could very well be Ground Zero for this nation on how to turn this into an educational experience for future generations. There are beautiful ideas on how to reinterpret the monument and the plaza that is a memorial to dead veteran soldiers of these United States. Time should be taken to hear both sides.

The people of the City of Pensacola have elected you to your seats for such a time as this. Please delay the decision and give the people a chance to come together with a beautiful, collaborative solution that will be a light for this nation.

Respectfully,

Dave

## CONFEDERATE STATUES:

It is time for America to re-thinks it's values. The confederate statues need to be removed and placed into a museum. We cannot change what has happened in our past History. America is supposed to be the land of freedoms, but yet we have committed some very serious atrocities. We have enslaved people because of the color of their skin, we have forgotten or ignored the fact that God created all of us equal and in His image. We fought a bitter Civil War to free people from these wrongs, and then went West and genocide the Native Americans.

The confederate statues are a symbol of those atrocities. The confederate states broke our Constitution, by seceding from the union, engaged in treaties with a foreign nation, and the firing upon Fort Sumter. These are all acts of treason to our nation, and have costs lives to correct.

Washington, Jefferson, Monroe, and some others of our founding fathers, had slaves, some were treated fairly, and with compassion. But they were still slaves. These men were involved in the "birth of a new nation". Their actions were one of unification not division. The facts remain that the confederacy was dividing our nation, over an issue that remains today.

If those who are against removal of these statues, I ask them can we erect statues of Benedict Arnold , and persons like him?

Again remove the statues place them in a museum as a remembrance of our past mistakes, with the fortitude to correct and embrace the idea that we are all one nation ,created equal under our Constitution and God

Mike Grieco Pensacola

Former elected official

## Don Kraher

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**From:** psufloida@cox.net  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2020 12:00 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Confederate Monument

**Importance:** High

**THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT**

I would like the following read during the City Council meeting tomorrow.

“While I have no objection to moving the monument, I do object to it being stored or destroyed. This monument represents part of our history, like it or not. Rather than dwell on the past, it should be used as a reminder not of what is, but what was, and how far we’ve come since then. It also can serve as a measure of progress forward. Erasing history that may now be ‘objectionable’ is the wrong approach, and essentially akin to what fanatics like ISIS did in the Middle East. Move it to an appropriate spot, like that cemetery who already offered to take it. And I’m fine with changing the square’s name back to Florida Square for the same reason. That’s historically what it originally was called.”

*Stan Allsopp*  
*101 East Romana Street Apt 576*  
*Pensacola FL 32502*



## Don Kraher

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**From:** Suzanne Suzanne <mmsmem3@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2020 12:06 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Upcoming council meeting on statues

THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

Dear Escambia Council:

Our family moved downtown from Pace in 2019 to get closer to history and all the wonderful things downtown has to offer. Our daughter plans to major in history, and our family has been stationed all over the world before my husband retired from the US Navy. When our daughter was a toddler, we were stationed on the Japanese island of Okinawa. My husband was in charge of complaints from the local population regarding any Naval activities. He knew the history of Okinawa well and spoke a little Japanese to be able to speak easier with the older generation. We often visited landmarks on Okinawa to learn their history. One in particular that haunts my memory was of the caves used to hide Okinawans during WW2. The Japanese forced Okinawans into these caves and there were mass suicides. As we read the plaques throughout the caves, we could see to complete rewriting of the Okinawan history to slant in favor of Japanese and many facts were completely incorrect. I said out loud why would they do this and also that would never happen in the United States with our freedoms to learn ALL of our history. However, that is exactly what we are seeing currently play out throughout our country, and it is scary. You see, in the 1950s we returned the island of Okinawa to Japan. Japan has always discriminated the Okinawan people, as they do not feel they are Japanese. What has happened now in Okinawa is a Japanese form of history, instead of the monuments that tell the true story for generations of Okinawans to learn the good and the bad in history. The older generation know this history and love the US military that saved them, while the young people that do not know the true history of Okinawa's history of the Japanese during WW2 along with the US military are protesting misinformation from their now Japanese schools. Another example of the importance of NOT erasing our history and culture is also from the horrible history from WW2...the Jewish concentration camps. After the war, the Jewish populations did not want the camps destroyed. WHY??? Because they wanted future generations to remember the atrocities that people can inflict on other people just because they are different from them. That is why we as a family are saying do not be so quick on just taking down these statues and renaming parks. The mob culture right now always works on emotions instead of logic. Pensacola has a colorful history, and you are right some that is bad...just like all towns and cities around the world. However, Pensacola has been wonderful as having parks, bridges monuments, streets, buildings and museum exhibits all showcasing or naming amazing African Americans in our Pensacola history. The monuments in our squares downtown are also a part of Pensacola's history and should be recognized in that way - part of our history. History is always going to have good and bad with it. Our family believes that is why these statues should remain with some changes..... Why not add to the areas where these monuments and the park are, to explain more the contributions and truth that happened to African Americans during the Civil War period in Pensacola? Let our future generations know everything that is true in our Pensacola history, so we do not lose it like Okinawa has. Thank you, The Martin Family

Sent from my iPhone

## **Don Kraher**

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**From:** Walt Kindergan <Walt@christ-church.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2020 1:13 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Confederate monument

**THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT**

Dear Mr. Kraher,

I want to go on record as supporting the removal and re-siting of the confederate monument now in Lee Square. An even cursory reading of the history of its placement and celebration at that time, I believe, shows that it was intended to celebrate white supremacy. And that view is no longer embraced (nor should it be or ever have been) by our community.

I will let you decide whether or not this email is read at the City Council meeting.

Thank you,

Walter B. Kindergan  
99 Firestone Blvd.  
Pensacola, FL 32503

850-529-5944

## Don Kraher

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**From:** Jerry Webb <jtw@webbelectric.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2020 1:17 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher; P.C. Wu; Sherri Myers; Andy Terhaar; Jared Moore; John Jerrals; Ann Hill; a-wynn@cityofpensacola.com  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Letter from 89 Year Old Pensacola Native

THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

Please read into the record:

Council Members,

What will follow in this communication are my thoughts on the Lee Square Monument removal.

I was born in Pensacola almost within the shadow of the monument 89 ½ years ago. I served a short time in the United States Marine Corps.

My first job paid \$37.50 per week. I began a business in 1961 which continues to this day, employing 40-75 persons of all races and gender. A black man is presently being trained in a managerial position.

Pensacola is very rich in history. The monument is history. It is not a racist statement. Decent men of honor from the north and south fought in the Civil War.

Statues all over the nation give recognition to these persons.

Few Americans are aware of the Union Army with generals like Armstrong Custer's treatment of the American Indians; broken treaties, murder, taking their land – barbaric behavior.

How about General Sherman's destruction of Atlanta on his march to the south. Statues of their persons exist, and they should remain as history.

The murder of a black man by a white police officer was horrendous beyond belief. I trust this officer has received the severest punishment permissible by law.

However the violence and destruction that followed this murder cannot be condoned or encouraged.

BLM and others are funded by those who want to change our government. I recently heard a black lady professor from an Ivy league college say, "Marxist are heavily involved in these movements."

BLM recently hired a woman who was a member of the weather underground – a radical organization of the 60's.

This woman had spent 16 years in prison for murder until Bill Clinton pardoned her his last day in office. "What a brave guy."

Leo Terrell, a black civil rights lawyer for 30 years says the same thing - BLM is radical, advocates looting, destruction of public and private property, destroying the historical monuments – recently saying,

"... if we don't get our way we will wreck your city." To do away with the police is insane. Representatives Omar and Ocasio-Cortez think we should become a socialist county.

The Pensacola City Council should be aware the MOB will not stop with the removal of historical monuments.

The Pensacola Council should be very careful to understand who they are negotiating with and their ultimate goal.

Since President Lyndon Johnson's time in office the government has spent 23 trillion dollars - I said trillion, to provide equal opportunity for all, providing all types of welfare, and benefits.

America – while not perfect, is the best place on earth to live. America is not racist; Obama proved that, Pensacola is damn not racist.

Leave the monument in place.

Jerry T. Webb, *Pensacola native*

President

WEBB ELECTRIC COMPANY OF FLORIDA, INC.

## Don Kraher

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**From:** Jennifer Baldwin <jenbaldwin@outlook.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2020 2:05 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher; P.C. Wu; Sherri Myers; Andy Terhaar; Jared Moore; John Jerrals; Ann Hill; a-wynn@cityofpensacola.com  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Letter for 7/14 special meeti g

THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

\*Please read into the record\*

I strongly urge you to not bow down to the demands of these “anarchist” and begin to dismantle our cities rich and colorful history. Pensacola is the oldest settlement in North America and has been occupied and waved the flag of 5 different countries. Pensacola is a unique and prosperous community built by the blood, sweat and tears of people of all cultures.

These Monuments serve as a reminder of that history: where we have been and how far we have come.

Do not allow yourself to fall into the emotional persuasion of people’s political agendas who don’t even understand the depth of what they are “fighting” for.

These monuments stand as a reminder of the days when brother fought against brother and when families were divided, and blood was shed for a cause that people felt the need to die for. They should be embraced and held up as symbols of where we as a country never want to be again.

We must not censor our people instead highlight our history and educate one another on the many lessons Americans have learned throughout its lifetime.

“Those that don’t know history are doomed to repeat it” To destroy a country's heritage and history is to destroy its heart and soul.

These monuments have stood the test of time. Will we really let them fall to the socialist anarchist agenda currently fueling our country?

As an Elected Official it is your foremost duty to be a representative of the people. Well Pensacola is not New York City it is not Chicago and these Monuments have existed here before you were Elected and Should Remain there once you are out of office.

-jen Baldwin  
Concerned lifelong pensacola resident

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Sam Mathews, 5420 Limestone Road, Pensacola, FL 32504

To be read aloud:

### **Remove the Monument to Slavery**

The monument in question tonight is there to honor those who fought for the Confederacy and in support of its constitution. Much as current day U.S. Military swear to defend the constitution of the United States, those folks swore to defend the constitution of the Confederacy. That constitution explicitly included slavery as a right and criminalized those who sought to free slaves. That is not a cause for Pensacola to celebrate.

There are those descendants of Confederate soldiers who wish to celebrate their ancestors' support of slavery. In my mind that means that, the cause of those who fought to free slaves is somehow equivalent to those who fought to retain the right to have slaves. I suspect that is not what we want to greet those visiting downtown Pensacola. That stature was placed there during the Jim Crow era with the intent of reminding the Black citizens of their place. Of further concern is that it is maintained by the City of Pensacola at a cost to all taxpayers.

Imagine a Black parent driving north (or south) on Palafox and having a child ask about the statue in Lee Square. That parent may have to explain that the City maintains a monument to the time when children like her/him were bought and sold at the will of White folks. I think the time is exactly right to begin divesting the City of an overt salute to those who fought to retain slavery (as per the Confederate Constitution).

Germany has removed all vestiges of the period of time when Adolf Hitler and the Nazi party ruled. They have moved forward. It is time for us to do so.

## Don Kraher

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**From:** Steven Melei <semlegalasst@bellsouth.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2020 6:48 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Notice of Action/Comment to be read into record of tomorrows City Counsel Meeting RE: My opposition to removal of ANY historical monuments/markers in the Pensacola area

### THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

Dear Mr. Kraher and esteemed Members of the City Council:

I request this notice of legal action/comment be read into the record of the City Council meeting tomorrow (7-14-20) regarding removal of historical monuments/markers, etc. in the Pensacola, Florida area.

I am opposed to any removal of any historical monuments, markers, place names, etc. in the Pensacola, Florida area as a waste of precious tax dollars that could be used in better ways. Further, I oppose the removal of any historical monuments, markers, place names, etc. in the Pensacola, Florida area as an action that will open a Pandora's box/box of worms for the potentially endless amount of litigation that will ensue from such precedent that it appears you intend to perform in regard to the removal of a statue in downtown Pensacola.

If you follow through with removal of any historical monuments, markers, etc. then it will be precedent for the removal of anything that exists in our area that offends anyone of any race, color, creed, religion, ethnicity, etc. In the event historical statue removal precedent is set here in Pensacola, then it is my intention to pursue litigation on behalf of all groups that have been offended by any statue, historical or not, marker, place name, street name and so forth that offends any of the groups they may offend. For example, there exists a De Luna statue in Pensacola. This statue offends native american groups that were cruelly subjugated, murdered and removed from their native land (Pensacola) by the Spanish and other colonists. Therefore it will have to be removed also. Another example are the many street names we have in Pensacola. Most of these were persons who had racist beliefs such as Palafox and other city founders that are offensive to persons/groups that are alive today so they will have to be removed also and changed to something not offensive to anyone. In the same way I estimate approximately 60% or more of street names in Pensacola will have to be changed as representative of those who held racist beliefs (Desoto, Jackson, Gadsden, etc) or some belief or action that offends someone of some race, color, creed, religion, ethnicity, etc. Along the same lines of the precedent it appears you are about the set, even the moniker City of Five Flags will need to be changed as one or more of those flags is representative of a historically racist government such that we shall need to henceforth be known as the city of four flags or less. The name Pensacola itself is taken from a tribe of natives to this area that were murdered, displaced ( their land stolen) and moved out of the area and so it too is offensive and will need to be changed. The list goes on and on and is virtually endless. I hope you are up to the work required to make everything in this city and area perfect to not offend anyone from any group.

In the event of your potential precedent setting actions in regard to historical statue removal, I look forward to litigating the endless amount of lawsuits that will be able to be pursued once you take such action.

On a further note, as it appears that it is now legal in the city of Pensacola for certain ethnic groups to paint the streets then I would like to announce that I represent several ethnic groups that intend to paint streets in the city of Pensacola that "their lives matter" also. If any action is taken by any official in the city to stop the painting of these streets or to pursue criminal or civil legal action against them then you will actively be discriminating against such groups in disregard of State and Federal Law and lawsuits will immediately be initiated.

Thank you for your time in regard to this matter.

Sincerely,

Steven E. Melei, Attorney

Steven E. Melei 3603 Mobile Highway Pensacola, FL 32505 Phone: (850)572-1407

## Don Kraher

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**From:** Larry A <lwalgee@panhandle.rr.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2020 6:53 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Cc:** Grover C. Robinson, IV; Lauren E. Williams; Keith Wilkins; Susan Southard  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Comments on Lee Square

THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

Greetings,

I am sending you this email because I was told you would distribute it to the city council members and enter my comments into the records of the meeting. Note that I have documents that support a number of my points, but I hope you are trained enough not to open attachments from an unknown source. My comments follow:

Despite the pretty words of the city administrator, this motion bases itself on a destruction of history, the entire aim of the domestic terrorist organizations of Antifa and BLM. By considering this in this manner, especially when the administrator and council can hide behind claimed health measures to deny an actual public hearing. It gives the appearance of attempting to appease the mob in fear of the potential violence. Especially since the document produced by the administrator notes that a large proportion of the citizens are descended from former Confederate citizens, which begs the question of why the discrimination against one group's ancestry over others? Council agreement to this proposal equals the council agreeing the administrator's defacto claim that that one group of citizens are lesser than other groups.

After all, these leadership of these groups include known racists who have declared whites to be subhuman compared to blacks, to claim that if they are not given what they want they will burn everything down and multiple declared socialists. We have seen the mob violence promoted by those that want to tear down statues. I'm not even going to get into the execution/ambush killings of police officers, children and people who "disrespected" them by daring to have a different public opinion.

There is also the matter of the insertion into US Army emails a couple of pages of openly racist propaganda from a site supporting the statue destroyers. Those pages declare any who disagree with the Antifa/BLM socialist narrative "prove" themselves to be "racist".

Given the real world actions we have seen across the country, a decision by the city council of Pensacola to officially desecrate a statue by "disappearing" it should be expanded to a move to desecrate all of our historical monuments, especially that of Martin Luther King, Jr. Why? Not as a tit for tat, since I think that statue has an equal place in Pensacola, but because the members of the council will be grovelling before those who make judgements based on the color of skin and not the content of character, those who have left the high plane of dignity and discipline to the degeneration of physical violent, drinking deep of the cup of bitterness and hatred. For the council's information, according one of the pages inserted into the Army emails, simply daring to judge people as equal, by the content of their character and not the color of their skin or, more simply, being colorblind, all are counted as "proof" that person is "racist". So, by the definition of the people that push the action under consideration, Martin Luther King, Jr. (and a great many other men of color with



statues) are racists. So, double standard? Or is Pensacola to be defined as racist according to the standards of the ones pushing for the removal of the Lee statue?

Note that despite claims against "racist" Confederate statues, the mob the council considers bowing down to tonight (14 July 2020) destroys ALL historical statues, including the founders of the USA, President Lincoln, multiple abolitionists, multiple black men who were patriotic Americans and not socialists, etc. They openly glory in doing so. This represents an absolutely planned move to disrupt, cause chaos and increase the potential for racial violence in the United States. The city administrator's pretty, high sounding and cowardly words set this city and county on that course if the council acts on it at this meeting. He says that this is not what Pensacola wants to be. Sorry, it is our history, it is what Pensacola IS. No matter what Pensacola may become, we are our history. Those that fail to remember their history are doomed to repeat it. The way to fix a problem with a violent mob always comes down to standing firm against it, not trying to appease it. As has been said, appeasement is the act of feeding the alligator hoping it will eat you last.

The socialist tag represents the most telling issue with these groups, especially if one is actually familiar with history. We only have to return to 90-100 years ago, where there were organized street gangs who fought in the streets of several European countries, causing chaos and destroying history until their group won. Antifa directly and openly claims to be the descendants of those original street gangs. They were socialists of the Left, Right and Center and each of them won in a different country. Governments tried to appease the street thugs in fear of their mobs and failed, the mob is always hungry and if given a little, it always wants more. The council should consider if this is what they want to be remembered for and ask themselves how much they want to give to the mob the hope that maybe they won't have to back up local law enforcement.

There is an actual solution to this, that fits in with an American way of doing things that are of great import to a community. This November, there is an election. Simply put the measure on the ballot for Escambia County to vote on. Escambia County? Yes, Pensacola is the county seat, so in this case, there is an interest by citizens of the entire county. If the city administrator and council are sure of their position, there should be no problem and the appearance of surrender before implied threats of violence from any party can be avoided. Personally, I am enough in favor of this solution, that even though I am vehemently opposed to the negative potential and signals it would send, if the voters of Escambia County desire this, I will be happy to assist with the removal of the statue as a volunteer.

Thank you for your time and God bless,

Lawrence Algee

## **Don Kraher**

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**From:** David Schwartz <dlschwartz411@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2020 7:25 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher; P.C. Wu; Sherri Myers; Andy Terhaar; Jared Moore; John Jerrals; Ann Hill; a-wynn@cityofpensacola.com  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Letter for 7/14 special meeting

THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

"Please read into the record."

Madam Chair and council persons,

I am not here to persuade you to vote either for or against the removal of the statue at Lee Square. A vote either way will be detrimental to your political career. You will make one side happy and the other side angry.

I urge you to put this issue on the November ballot and let the people of Pensacola and all of Escambia County decide. In doing so you will solve a number of potential problems.

First, the will of the people will be done, not the will of the group that makes the most noise or the will of your staff.

Second, you will insulate yourselves from any accusations of voting your agenda and not the will of your constituents.

Thirdly, if you choose to further your political career none of your opponents can use your vote against you.

Putting this issue on the ballot would truly be government by the people and for the people the foundation for which this country was founded on.

David L. Schwartz

## Don Kraher

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**From:** Terri Lewis <tqlewis1@cox.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2020 7:39 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Comments to City Council

THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

Don Kraher. request this be read in the comments re. statue removal

“History is not there for you to like or dislike. It is there for you to learn from it. And if it offends you, even better. Because then you are less likely to repeat it. It’s not yours to erase. It belongs to all of us!” I thought this appropriate. The statue in Lee Square, having been there since the 1800s surely is historical and part of this city. It should not be removed. Why not add memorials to honor others instead of tearing down.

This meeting is a sham, as many of you have been very public in wanting it removed.

Therefore, I know this is a waste, but I stand for what I believe is right.

Theresa Lewis

Sent from my iPad

## Don Kraher

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**From:** Kathy Tanner <funtanner@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2020 7:57 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Cc:** dschaefer@visitpensacola.com; mayorrobinson@cityofpensacola.com; maria@jacksonsrestaurant.com; P.C. Wu; Sherri Myers; aterharr@cityofpensacola.com; Jared Moore; jjeraralds@cityofpensacola.com; Ann Hill; cannada-wynn@cityofpensacola.com; district4@myescambia.com; dunlap@gccoxmail.com  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Please read and request delay for Covid 19 and historical value.

THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

Mayor and Council members:

I am requesting a **delay** of the meeting on the decommissioning of the Lee Square Monument. The "Pandemic" prevents many of those concerned to voice their views. It's been there a long long time. **A little longer won't hurt**. Please cancel this meeting like other cities in Florida have due to Covid 19. Let the city speak when there is no stress and Covid 19 challenges are over.

Please consider this statue a future " Freedom Trail" style statue. Civil War and Heritage Tourism are a Billion Dollar industry and the Freedom Trails heal. Please don't hijack Pensacolas heritage.

This Freedom Trail style heritage tour can include:

**The 1891 Civil War Statue with the soldier in his Confederate Jacket and Union pants (did you know that?) All ready there (needs 2020 defined plaque)**

**Ft George - Bust and Plaque already there**

**Old Christ Church already there**

**Perry House already there**

**Statue Galvez already there**

**MLK already there**

**The Pelicans already there for fun**

**Artel and Store Fronts (defer to Deborah Dunlap) already there**

**The Murals and Palafox Tower already there**

**Jackson Square already there**

**The historic buildings and shops South Palafox all ready there**

**more and more to Deluna Plaza and visit the Statue, see the Port side the ferry. Hid to Ft Pickens,,already there .....**

**Use this Statue to heal with a 2020 plaque and Make Tourism dollars that count, fill hotels and invite tourism. Keep Palafox Historical and Open for business and car safe tours. USA travelers come back and explore more , the trend will be the Covid Safe Bubble called a car. At this juncture a lot is here already to market on the Palafox Street and the Historical District making it instantly affordable for market and vacationers.**

**Kathy Tanner, Realtor/Owner cell 850-435-9007  
Tanner Realty of NW FLA LLC.  
421 E. Zaragoza St. Pensacola FL 32502  
Florida State University Hotel and Restaurant and Tourism Administration B.S.**

**Don Kraher**

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**From:** Bill Williams <kakum1012@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2020 8:04 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] STATUE(S)

**THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT**

**PLEASE READ IN OPEN ALOUD AT COUNCIL MEETING RE: STATUE REMOVAL:**

Removing Statues is similar to burning down your local power plant because you dislike your power bill – DUH. Or letting the un-informed walk the street with their butt hanging out – but YOU want to take down an Historic Statue is a land-mark.

Bill Williams

## Don Kraher

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**From:** ltjagc@aol.com  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2020 8:13 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Letter for 7/14 special meeting

**THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT**

Please read into the record-

My name is Andrew Strickland. I placed a half page color ad in the Pensacola paper during the entire fourth of July weekend in support of Mike Hill and in support of Lee Circle. I respectfully ask that you do not take the neo Marxist approach to the path of destruction. They are never satisfied and will try to remove or destroy something else unless you stand up to them! Real Americans build monuments, we don't remove them!

Any Republican commissioner who lacks the mental and spinal fortitude necessary to build upon our common heritage and past doesn't deserve to be in office, (regardless of how much money the low wage, open borders corrupt chamber of commerce donates to your campaign) and your constituents will know why!

;) )

Andrew Strickland, Esquire

## Kim Pinton

In today's new "Cancel Culture" society, I feel like what we are really witnessing is a few, and not the majority, who are wanting to erase history without understanding or having engaging discussions as to why we should not remove history. What is cancel culture anyway? It's groups of people who are being duped into destroying historical monuments without even having the knowledge of what they are destroying.

If we remove history, who will teach future generations about the past? No matter how many statues you take down, you can not change history. But you can learn from it, and we should learn from it. No one today is or has been a slave nor a slave owner. There has been a meme on social media circulating recently that was of a little white girl and a little Japanese girl saying: Asking her (the white girl) to apologize for slavery is like asking her (the Japanese girl) to apologize for Pearl Harbor. History is good and bad. We must accept history warts and all.

More proof that history should not be forgotten: Auschwitz among other historical death camps, will not remove the gas chambers that killed nearly 2,700,000 Jews during Nazi Germany regime. This was a horrific time, killing so many innocent men, women and children. Why would they not want to destroy anything left from that period of time? The reason is, we should not forget. It should be taught and remembered not only to memorialize and honor those who lost their lives, but to make sure history doesn't repeat itself.

The argument to remove statues will bring people together and lower crime rate should also be examined. As a native and former Louisianian, I can tell you that removing Confederate statues in New Orleans did not make any difference to the high crime rates. The Robert E. Lee statue formerly located in Lee Circle in New Orleans was sculpted by Alexander Doyle in 1884, listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1991 and *New Orleans Magazine* reported in June of 2011 as one of the city's 11 important statues, was removed to an unknown location with future display uncertain on May 19, 2017. In 2017, the murder rate was up 8.8% over 2016. In 2018, there were 147 murders with 2019 reporting slightly down at 119, but even through a quarantine in 2020, currently the murder rate is up 42% over 2019. In 2016, Gainesville, did not remove their Confederate statues citing cost.

I will leave you with a few quotes from historical figures:

"Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it" – George Santayana

"The farther backward you can look, the farther forward you are likely to see" - Winston Churchill

"If you don't know history, then you don't know anything. You are a leaf that doesn't know it's part of a tree" – Michael Chrichton

"I'm a firm believer in 'keep your history before you' and so I don't actually want to rename things that were named for slave owners, I want us to have to look at the names and recognize what they did, and be able to tell our kids what they did and for them to have a sense of their own history. When you start wiping out your history, sanitizing your history to make you feel better, it's a bad thing" – Condoleeza Rice

Please leave our Confederate statues in place, they are a part of our history.



## Don Kraher

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**From:** kew1952@att.net  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2020 9:10 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Removal of the Lee statute comments for city counsel meeting

### THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

I am requesting that this email be read at the city counsel meeting. This is such a sensitive topic that elicits emotions no matter what your opinion. The city of Franklin, TN., faced a similar situation in 2017 and they came together as a community to develop a plan of action. It became known as the Fuller Story movement. Community leaders and government officials came together and made a determination that rather than removing the confederate statue, they would create plaques, which would provide a "fuller story." Pastor Chris Williamson is quoted as saying "What we wanted was equal footing, if you will, a place of equal nobility, to tell other stories that haven't been told. Stories that will bring the community together as well as bring knowledge of the past." Their city counsel moved forward and placed new historical markers near the confederate memorial. These plaques tell the fuller story, and highlights the shared history. The markers tell the stories of the African American experience before, during and after the Civil War. The cost of the plaques was covered by community donations. In addition, what it would take to remove the statue, could be applied to help cover the costs. Removing a statue is not going to change people's opinion or erase the wrongs. However, providing a fuller story can help to educate all of us and open the doors for communication. My request is simple.....look to a community that has come up with a creative solution, one that will provide the fuller story. Just google fuller story movement to get more details.

Thank you. Kathy Winters

## Don Kraher

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**From:** desktop <alanrrobinson@cox.net>  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 11, 2020 10:05 AM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Comment to be read aloud at monument meeting

THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

I am extremely proud of our community for the mostly civil behavior we have shown concerning this monument. I humbly submit for your consideration, that we do something not being done anywhere else in these cases. That we place a bronze placard summarizing the story of this monument. This should summarize the recent history that appeared in the Pensacola News Journal, the bad included. My reasoning is that ignoring history is never a good idea.

Alan Robinson

## Don Kraher

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**From:** Tiffany French <tlcarroll@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 11, 2020 12:45 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Comments for Public Record

THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

Mr. Kraher and Councilors,

Hello. I would like to submit comments for the public record regarding the Confederate monument.

I technically live outside city limits, but I spend a lot of time and money on shopping, eating, and entertainment in the city, and since my address says Pensacola, I feel that the city reflects on my reputation.

My husband and I would like the monument to be removed. The Confederates were traitors to our country who fought to keep slavery and lost. We learn about their history in school. People don't learn about history from statues, and we shouldn't be glorifying them. Germany doesn't have statues of Hitler; it has history museums and memorials to his victims, which is a model that makes sense to me.

I can't imagine how our black citizens and tourists feel looking at this celebration of slavery that Pensacola is actively promoting by allowing it to remain.

Thank you,  
Tiffany French  
3121 W. Jackson St. (which I think should be renamed)  
Pensacola, FL 32505

## Don Kraher

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**From:** M L WESTPHAL <malwstphl@bellsouth.net>  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 11, 2020 6:58 AM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fw: Online Form Submittal: Public Concerns and Comments Form

THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** noreply@civicplus.com <noreply@civicplus.com>  
**To:** "malwstphl@bellsouth.net" <malwstphl@bellsouth.net>  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 11, 2020, 06:46:19 AM CDT  
**Subject:** Online Form Submittal: Public Concerns and Comments Form

### Public Concerns and Comments Form

<b>First Name</b>	Michael
<b>Last Name</b>	Westphal
<b>Phone Number</b>	<i>Field not completed.</i>
<b>Email</b>	<i>Field not completed.</i>
<b>Subject</b>	Lee Square Monument

**Comment**

When I look at the monument I see a soldier who fought for what he thought was right and lost his life for it.  
I don't see North or South or black or white.  
Approximately 900,000 men on both sides gave their lives.  
It is my gut feeling that it will be a unanimous decision to take it down and put in storage.  
If this happens, it will never be seen again.  
100 years from now a father and his son will come across what is left of this monument.  
The son will ask his father what was that for.  
The father will tell him "I think it was for a civil war" the son will then ask "what's a civil war"  
and then the father will say "I don't know, I don't remember"  
You will be erasing history if you throw this monument away.  
I hope you will consider putting it on the November ballot so all people can vote on it.  
Not just the few who are now making the loudest noise and intimidating everyone.

~~I hope someone reads this.~~

Thank you,  
Michael Westphal  
Sargent  
United States Marine Corps

## Don Kraher

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**From:** Jim George <jimg@georgeandgeorge.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 12, 2020 4:07 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Letter for 7/14 special meeting

THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

Please read into the record.

We are relatively new to the area and love many things about Pensacola and our new hometown, Gulf Breeze.

One of the main things we love about Pensacola, as so many do, is its deep and rich history.

Although we are not lifelong natives of the area, we still feel very deeply about efforts to just “erase” our history like the current effort to remove the Confederate Memorial.

I would like to ask a few questions about the move to take down this beautiful Memorial and to make a proposal as to the way forward .

The first question I would pose is: what’s the rush? Especially at this troubled time in our Nation’s history in the midst of the COVID 19 crisis, many question the timing of this vote!

Secondly, there is a common perception that, the vote is already decided and the “hearing” Tuesday evening is merely “window dressing”—in other words, a sham. Would you not agree a delay would address that concern?

Third, whose interest is being served by the removal of this landmark which has graced this beautiful city for over a century? I have seen little documentation of the reasoning of the proponents for removal. I would really like to understand better how the mere existence of a 50 foot tall marble obelisk and statue merits such “symbolic murder”.

Fourth, why risk the forfeiture of certain Federal funds by taking an action which is arguably in violation of the President’s recent Executive Order concerning statues and memorials.

With these thoughts in mind, as well as all of those previously submitted, here is a modest proposal:

1. Submit this issue to a popular vote.
2. Or, delay the vote to a time, “post-COVID’, when all can be heard in the manner intended by The Founders.

Thank you.

Jim George

James A. George (Admitted in Louisiana only)  
George and George, Ltd.  
A Professional Law Corporation (Louisiana)

Counselors At Law and Admiralty

1301 Greenvista Ln

Gulf Breeze, FL 32563

Cell: 225-270-3182

Website: [www.georgeandgeorge.com](http://www.georgeandgeorge.com)

E-mail: [jimg@georgeandgeorge.com](mailto:jimg@georgeandgeorge.com)



Robert Clipper  
Pensacola, Florida  
July 10, 2020

Subject: Letter to the City Council of Pensacola Regarding the Confederate Veterans' Memorial

Dear Members of the Pensacola City Council,

First by way of background, I was born in the old Sacred Heart Hospital on 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue and attended the old St Michael School adjacent to Florida (Lee) Square. My dear father attended the old Pensacola High School on the other side of the square. So, I've observed the old Confederate Veterans' Memorial Park for more than sixty-years.

I've always loved history and still enjoy reading about times of old, to this day. Like many people in Pensacola my dear mother immigrated to Pensacola, from Ohio. Likewise, Governor Perry also settled in Pensacola, from Massachusetts. In my estimation Perry was a hero, who led the Florida Brigade in many battles during the Civil War. He was about 30-years old, when he was severely wounded at the battle of Chancellorsville, Virginia. Colonel Lang (of Tallahassee) acted as his deputy and was about 27-years of age when he led the Florida Brigade at the battle of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. Many of the enlisted soldiers were about 18-years of age at the time. Of note, most of the soldiers were conscripted (drafted) into service in the Confederate Army. When the war ended at Appomattox, only about 70-veterans of the original (near) 1,000 men of the Florida Brigade survived.

Much has been said about how right or wrong these men may have been, but the fact remains that they were young citizens of Pensacola and North Florida, and they suffered greatly and died in battle fields far away from home. Their families and friends raised private funding to establish the memorial in their remembrances. Of note, the figure at the top of the monument is not General Lee, but an ordinary-unknown, enlisted soldier of the Florida Brigade, in defeat and despair at Appomattox. There is no good reason to destroy a commemoration of sons, brothers, husbands, and fathers who died terribly in an appalling war; but we should learn from their history and hope to do better during our time.

Thank you for the opportunity to address the Council.

Very respectfully, Robert Clipper



## Don Kraher

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**From:** Renee Priest <reene priestms@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 11, 2020 8:39 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Letter for 7/14 special meeting

THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

As citizens, we would like to have ALL voices heard on the subject of removing any statutes. We request that this discussion be scheduled for a later date to allow everyone to comment. Discussions from citizens were discussed for many, many months to name the Three Mile Bridge.

Whats's the rush? This pandemic has restricted us in many ways and we are quarantining to stay safe. The statues have been placed in various locations for hundreds of years.

Please advise.

Alan and Renee Priest

Sent from my iPhone

## Don Kraher

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**From:** Kate Buffington <katecoleb@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 12, 2020 11:57 AM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Confederate monument on Palafox

THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

Please read aloud and enter into the record

Dear Mayor Robinson and city council members,

I personally want to weigh in on the Confederate monument on Palafox . The history of the confederacy being immortalized overlooking our city is more than offensive....it is a symbol of a shameful period in our American history. As I see it, we are the United States of America....no longer designated as north and south. The civil war was perpetuated on the backs of the slave trade. I can only imagine how degrading this is for our fellow citizens who wholeheartedly fight for their rights for equal and fair standing in our city, state and country once again!! This issue is not going away!!! NOW IS "the time"! I suggest relegating the monument to the dust bin of history.

Sincerely,  
Kate Buffington  
485 Woodbine Dr  
Pensacola, FL 32503

Sent from my iPhone

## **Don Kraher**

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**From:** Yonge Watson <yongew@cox.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 12, 2020 12:23 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fw: Lee Square Confederate Memorial

THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

**NOTE-RESENT TO CORRECT EMAIL ADDRESS**

**From:** Yonge Watson  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 12, 2020 6:56 AM  
**To:** draher@cityofpensacola.com  
**Subject:** Lee Square Confederate Memorial

**(Email to the Pensacola City Council for consideration at the meeting July 14, 2020):**

**The memorial in Lee Square was built to memorialize the war veterans from the Pensacola area that served in the Civil War. Just as we have other memorials in Pensacola for the war veterans of World War 1; the Korean War and the Vietnam Memorial I feel the monuments should remain to continue to be part of our glorious military men and women that fought for American principles and causes that proves our participation in a rich 400+ year history of battles to maintain our American way of life. The Civil War was complicated and had implications that involved the individual state's rights, the Southern culture of agriculture labor and trade issues aside from slavery. Slavery was mostly confined to the farms and plantations outside of our fair city and few Penacola citizens actually owned slaves. My great grandfather F. C. Brent and great great grandfather Thomas Brent both served in the Confederate military. They both returned to Pensacola after the war broken in spirit and broke financially according to my family history. Three sides of my family were involved in the building and financing of the Lee memorial from the Brent, Watson and Yonge sides of my family in the late 1800's. Our heritage and the promotion of our heritage sites like Lee Square are history and need to be maintained for future generations to learn first hand from these monuments and sites like our Seville Square District; our Wentworth Museum, our forts on NAS that continue to attract tourists from around the world to tell and show our valuable history as part of America.**

**I pray and recommend that the City Council maintain the Lee Monument and Park "as is" " where is" for the future.**

**Very Sincerely, Malcolm Yonge Watson (Pensacola native and former resident for 35 years)  
Email: "yongew@cox.net"; Phone \*850-651-5001  
961 Shalimar Pointe Drive; Shalimar, FL 32579 Former Charter Member and Past President of the Pensacola Heritage Foundation and Former Homeowner of the Seville Square Historical District**

## Don Kraher

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**From:** Renee Sullivan <renee.l.sullivan@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 12, 2020 12:27 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher; P.C. Wu; Sherri Myers; Andy Terhaar; Jared Moore; John Jerralds; Ann Hill; a-wynn@cityofpensacola.com  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Letter for 7/14 special meeting

THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

Dear City Council members,

Many residents who oppose the movement of this monument are silent because they fear retaliation in regards to their jobs, families, and their overall well-being but it is important to send this email to challenge each of you to uphold the views of ***all*** citizens by encouraging you to **KEEP THE CENOTAPH AS IS WHERE IT IIS IN ITS CURRENT LOCATION!**

This beautiful monument was erected in 1891 after many years of ladies saving every penny, nickel, dime, and quarter from fundraising events to build and erect this memorial for those who gave their lives fighting for their homes, families, and the land they loved.

Not only does this monument signify the sacrifices that were made by Florida families during the war, but also serves as a reminder to all of the *South's resilience to once again become a beautiful and prosperous city after pulling themselves from the ashes of war to rebuild their homes, businesses, and most of all, their families.* Contrary to the current narrative perpetuated by those who oppose anything related to the four-year period of the War Between the States, this is not and was never intended to be a racist symbol but those who oppose, have attempted to impose their own personal views and make it racist based by attributing today's standards to those from yesteryear. People change their outlooks but history and facts never change! Do the right thing and do not disturb the cenotaph!

Thank you!

## Don Kraher

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**From:** BERNARD <L16303@cox.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 12, 2020 12:33 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher; P.C. Wu; Sherri Myers; Andy Terhaar; Jared Moore; John Jerrals; Ann Hill; a-wynn@cityofpensacola.com  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] please read this

**THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT**

I have lived at 306 west Lloyd street  
32501 for more than 44 years, I am 80 +

The monument to those who died in the Civil War honors three (3) of my ancestors, two brothers, Valsin and Odile Bernard were Cajun trappers and farmers in the Bayous of Louisiana; the other is Bengiman Marcell Bettancourt. A carpentuer from Edgart, Loouisana. The three were conscripted in 1863 and the three died in 1864. The three lie in un-marked graves far away from home and alone.

None owned a slave. This monument is for them. If you must remove the monument, it is only fitting that you remove the monument of Martin Luther King Jr., If you remove one you should remove both.

Jeffrey C. Bernard  
306 west Lloyd Street.  
Pensacola, FL 32501

850 433-0280.

## Don Kraher

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**From:** Edward Bryan <eprudd@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 12, 2020 1:24 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Letter for the 7/14 special meeting

THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

Please read into the record

\*Delay because many on the other side need their voice heard without repercussions to their businesses for speaking out.

\*Delay because all this undue stress on city staff and council members weakens their immune system and many are in the AT RISK age. Kraher having to read emails in a mask for 3+ hours is unhealthy and dangerous.

E.Bryan

## Don Kraher

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**From:** Bonnie McAfee <bjmcafee@bellsouth.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 12, 2020 2:49 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher; P.C. Wu; Sherri Myers; Andy Terhaar; Jared Moore; John Jerrals; Ann Hill; a-wynn@cityofpensacola.com  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Letter for 7/14 special meeting

THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

Please read into the record.

Over the last few years, I have watched the progression of certain people who want to destroy America's history. I watched Mitch Landrieu take down monuments in New Orleans (my home town) in the middle of the night to beat a deadline before the issue could go to court. Landrieu never offered to put the issue to a vote of the people. 7 members of the New Orleans city council and Mitch Landrieu, 8 people, took it upon themselves to destroy millions of dollars of monuments they deemed to be offensive because they represented something tied to the Confederacy. Over hundreds of years of artwork were destroyed, are unusable and will never be appreciated by the public again, all because 8 people determined they were "offensive".

It is WRONG to have a handful of people determine what the public can view and appreciate. In Pensacola's case, it is WRONG to have several WHITE people on their own destroy what they perceive to be offensive to African Americans or anyone else. In the case of New Orleans, between 1981 and until Mitch Landrieu was elected in 2010, there were African American mayors of New Orleans. For decades when there were black mayors in New Orleans, the issue of removing monuments was never addressed. It took someone who was white, Landrieu, to make a decision that he deemed the statues "racist" without any vote taken from the citizens.

The issue should be put to a vote of the citizens of Pensacola. Keep the cenotaph as is where it is until the issue can be discussed and possible voted on.

Delay should be made so both sides can be heard. It took almost 2 years of discussions from citizens regarding naming the \$420 million MEMORIAL 3 mile bridge to Gen Chappie James...an African American. Why can't this issue be discussed and possible put before the public to vote upon?

Sincerely,

Bonnie J. McAfee  
Pensacola

## Don Kraher

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**From:** James Cardwell <gatorguy76@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 12:12 AM  
**To:** Don Kraher; P.C. Wu; Sherri Myers; Andy Terhaar; Jared Moore; John Jerrals; Ann Hill; a-wynn@cityofpensacola.com  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Letter for 7/14 special meeting

THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

"Please read into the record."

\*Delay until we are out of a city-wide Code Yellow for Covid

\*Delay because all this undue stress on city staff and council members weakens their immune system and many are in the AT RISK age.

\*Delay because it's been here for 130 years, what's a few more months. Why the rush?

\*Delay so both sides can be heard. It took almost 2 years of discussions from citizens regarding naming the \$420 million MEMORIAL 3 mile bridge to Gen Chappie James...an African American.

\*Delay because many on the other side need their voice heard without repercussions to their businesses for speaking out.

\*Delay because many on the side of keeping history are older and not as tech savvy to navigate a virtual meeting.

\*Delay until the civil unrest regarding police reform has settled. The 2 issues are not related.

Please

KEEP THE CENOTAPH AS IS WHERE IT IS BECAUSE FLORIDA HISTORY AND HONORING OUR VETERANS ARE CORNERSTONES OF OUR SOCIETY.

Sincerely,  
James C.



## Don Kraher

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**From:** Hannah Luttrell <health4you4life@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 4:24 AM  
**To:** Grover C. Robinson, IV; Jewel Cannada-Wynn; Ann Hill; John Jerrals; Jared Moore; Andy Terhaar; Sherri Myers; P.C. Wu; Don Kraher; Keith Wilkins; Susan Woolf  
**Cc:** district1@myescambiacounty.com; district2@myescambiacounty.com; district3@myescambiacounty.com; district4@myescambiacounty.com; district5@myescambiacounty.com  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Read at meeting July 14

**THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT**

Read into record.

I'm writing to request a delay on the decision to remove the Lee Square memorial. Our history is to be preserved, protected and interpreted. Removing it stops any discussion and any interpretation of the issues of the day. "Racism is a heart issue, whether the monument is up or down will not change the heart issue" (Paraphrased Dr PC Wu 9/14/17)

The mayor mentioned in his facebook video that \$10million would be needed to add other people groups' stories to the area. The African-Americans have a \$420 million dollar, 3 mile long memorial plus a soon to be complete statue honoring General Chappie James. Pretty much can't top that! You don't have to push this through right now. Focus on the Kyle Project and police reform. Our monuments have nothing to do with the police reform.

Build up our cultural heritage environment and monetize our history through a walk/bicycle/drive friendly Heritage Trail. With Covid changing how we travel and live, an outdoor Heritage Trail would be beneficial to our tourism community. Quint Studer just held a discussion forum at the Wahoo Park to hear from business owners and citizens on closing off Palafox. It took almost 2 years of citizen discussion on the Gen Chappie James Bridge. This 130 year old memorial to veterans definitely needs equal and adequate time to discuss ideas. Paraphrasing for time, Sherri Myers 9/14/17 wants to see more monuments, women, native Americans and slaves. Jewell Wynn (paraphrased 9/14/17) said there does need to be a discussion first prior to removal of any monument is the city council's policy and ordinance for such monuments, what should be looked at as historical resources and preservation and then be able to deal with each historical issue as it comes up. Please keep it so we can change hearts.

H.R.

For the Record

9 July 20

Thursday

2:15 pm

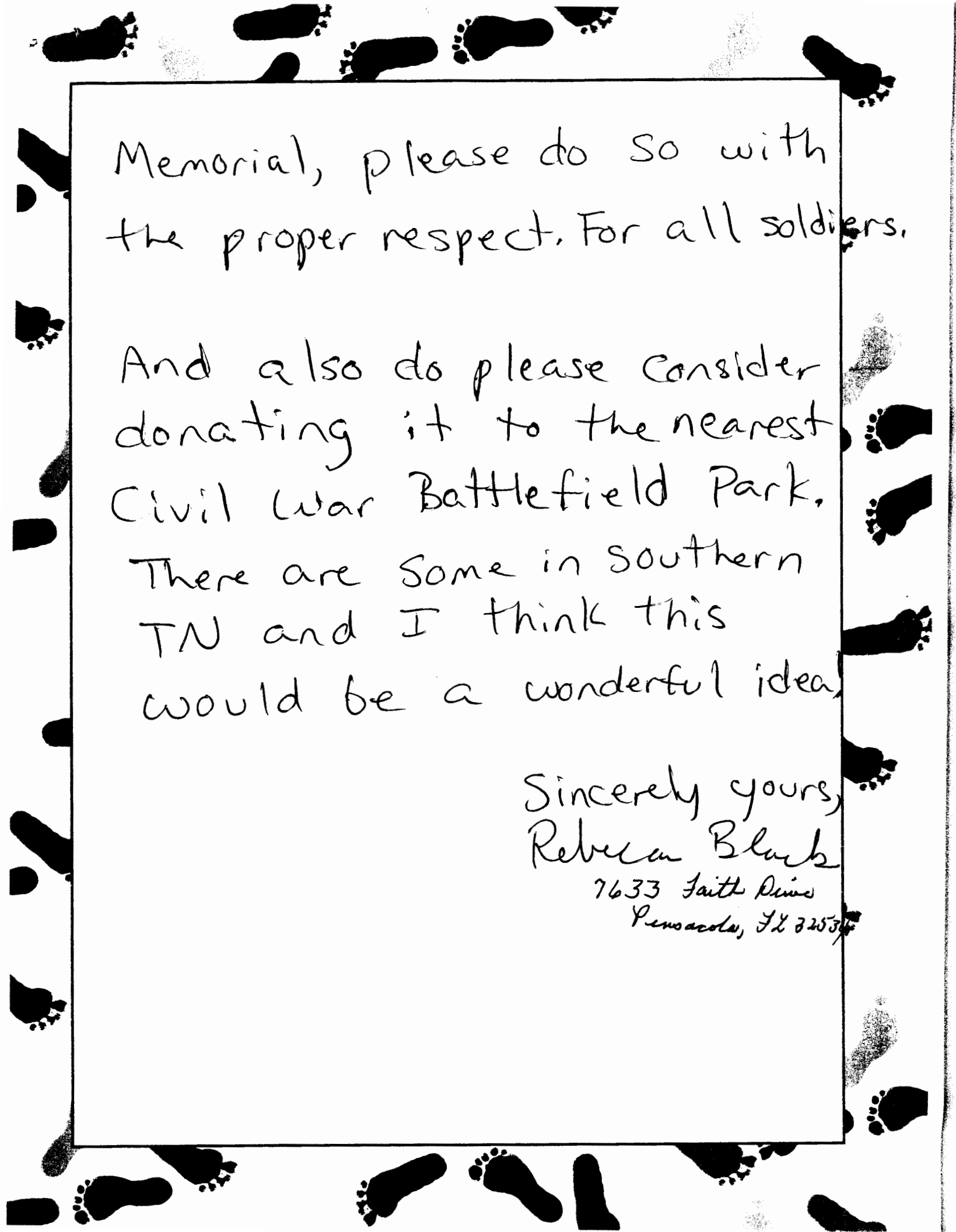
received

7/14/2020

As I previously stated, my great-grandfather fought in the Civil War. He was the son of a dirt farmer, the family owned no slaves.

Soldiers of all wars, even unpopular ones, should be given proper respect. Commissioned or conscripted, whether they died valiantly or in vain. Whether the cause was popular or not.

If you must retire the



Memorial, please do so with  
the proper respect. For all soldiers.

And also do please consider  
donating it to the nearest  
Civil War Battlefield Park.

There are some in southern  
TN and I think this  
would be a wonderful idea.

Sincerely yours,  
Rebecca Black

7633 Faith Drive  
Pensacola, FL 32534

## Don Kraher

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**From:** Jerry and Dave R <jerryanddave@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 8:08 AM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Monument

**THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT**

Let's be innovative and be maybe the first city to do this. Leave the monument up, but let's come up with a new plaque to be placed on it explaining what we now know. The wording should be something agreed upon by a committee of Black and White folks. Possibly members of the Mayor's new committee.

Wording should not be short, but it should be a learning experience for all.

Thank You

David and Jerry R

You can read this at the meeting or not, your call

## Don Kraher

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**From:** Will Strong <wstrong@integratedsurroundings.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 8:37 AM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Letter for 7/14 special meeting

**THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT**

Please read into the record.

The decision to remove history is to be decided by the people. Those who forget history are destined to repeat it.

Thank you for your service, sir

## Don Kraher

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**From:** Coy Glass <tranquilityhappens@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 8:47 AM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Public Comment - I would request my comment to be read aloud at the meeting

**THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT**

"The past is dead; let it bury its dead, its hopes and aspirations; before you lies the future. Let me beseech you to lay aside all rancor, all bitter sectional feeling, and to take your places in the ranks of those who will bring about a consummation devoutly to be wished--a reunited country." -Jefferson Davis

Before us lies the future. We're building that future right now. Let us build it on a foundation of empathy and mutual respect. Removal of this monument from a public space is a step in the right direction. We are not "rewriting" history in doing so, but rather righting the racist revisionist narrative that permeated our society around the turn of the last century. The civil war does not need romanticizing so that we may learn from it. The evident truth is, and will always be, enough. I encourage the council to do the right thing in removing the monument and in doing so let the truth set ourselves, and our community, free.

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android



July 14, 2020

The Pensacola Young Professionals  
P.O. Box 529  
Pensacola, FL 32591

Pensacola City Council  
222 West Main St.  
Pensacola, FL 32502

Dear President Cannada-Wynn and Honorable City Council Members:

The Pensacola Young Professionals (PYP) was created in 2006 to empower young professionals to make a difference by becoming active participants in the professional, civic, and philanthropic aspects of Pensacola. We started with taking a stand on the Maritime Park initiative and have made it our mission to catalyze positive change in our community ever since.

After our Board of Directors (all of whom are current PYP members) conducted a thoughtful conversation, the decision was made to poll our membership on the topic of the potential removal of the Confederate monument from Lee Square. Based on the Board's conversation, the results of the membership poll, and by Board vote, **PYP is officially in support of the removal of that monument.**

PYP is where individuals between the ages of 18 and 40 can connect with like-minded peers who are committed to the values of leadership, service, personal and professional development, friendship, and diversity. **Our membership has voted to demonstrate these values by calling on the City Council for the removal of this monument.**

Our objective is to showcase Pensacola as a dynamic community for all young professionals to live, work, and play. We believe the removal of this monument from its current, highly visible location on city property helps us achieve that objective.

Thank you for your consideration and for hearing our perspective. We look forward to continuing to build a welcoming and vibrant community as we share our passion for and belief in the Pensacola area.

Sincerely,

The Members, Leadership Team, and Board of Directors of the Pensacola Young Professionals

and

*R.S. Christie*

Ruthie Christie, Executive Director

## Don Kraher

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**From:** George Levy <gl51802@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 9:50 AM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Cc:** Jewel Cannada-Wynn; Jared Moore  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Please read into the record Opposed to Pensacola removing any statues

THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

Please read into the record

my position for the Pensacola City Council to consider.

Opposed to Pensacola removing any statues

I am not from this area, I was born and lived in the northern parts of this country and moved here a few years ago to retire.

A few things to consider in this Black Lives Matter political correctness, erase culture and history age. And the buzz word today is "racist" and being offended. This appears to be another step in the "appeasement act". And after you make this appeasement, there will be more. Has anyone ever asked if this is the only problem, or are there others? What else is needed? Where does it end?

Is this like a fad, with what is in favor today will not be tomorrow? This is approaching mob rule. What else is offensive? I do not think the Constitution is based on mob rule, and there appears to be a misunderstanding on "democracy". An example of democracy is 2 wolves and a lamb voting on what is for dinner. Guess how that ends without Constitutional Rights?

Is there going to be a point in this continuing appeasement when the Mayor's office is moved to the janitor's closet and the BLM spokesman will have the mayor's present office. Appeasement? Where does it end? Does that mean the BLM spokesman sitting in the old mayor's office should get the mayor's salary?

And it appears the big picture is taking down all these Civil War relics is an attempt to erase the history of bad decisions by people of one particular political party. And doesn't this particular political party still exists to this day? Is it possible that party wants to erase all this history and reminders before people get smart and start asking questions?

If you want to remove the Confederate statue because some people are offended, should you also remove any and all other also because some other people may be offended by that? What should remain today?

I can't wait for when the "reparations" discussion comes up. I have a lot of questions about that.

I have an ultimate question the BLM types do not want to hear and would have a hard time answering. I will save that for another day.

George Levy, Pensacola, FL



## Don Kraher

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**From:** Patricia Edmisten <pedmiste@uwf.edu>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 9:58 AM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Comment on Monument to be Read Aloud

**THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT**

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on the Confederate monument located on Lee Square.

Should the monument stay or go? The place to start in your deliberation should be the rightness or wrongness of the purpose behind the erection of the monument. Taking history and southern scholarship into consideration, we know that the monument, while giving solace to white southerners, and imagined justification for the loss of so many lives, had as its purpose the manifestation of white power. The purpose, then, was wrong. Moving on, the best place, one that would provide historical context for the monument, should be St. John's cemetery.

Patricia Edmisten, Ph.D.  
Pensacola, FL

## Don Kraher

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**From:** kevbenfly <kevbenfly@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 10:09 AM  
**To:** Don Kraher; P.C. Wu; Sherri Myers; Andy Terhaar; Jared Moore; John Jerrals; Ann Hill; a-wynn@cityofpensacola.com  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] LETTER FOR 7/14 MEETING

THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

"Please read into the record." By Kevin B. Flynn MSgt (USMC Ret.)

Delay until the civil unrest regarding police reform has settled. The 2 issues are not related.

KEEP THE CENOTAPH AS IS WHERE IT IS BECAUSE A MEMORIAL FOR THE LOCAL CONFEDERATE DEAD IS NOT A SYMBOL OF HATE..

Critics of the Cenotaph will tell you the monument sends a message of racism and White Supremacy. They will argue it was erected during a period in history when whites wanted to show that they still ruled the south. If that is true why is not plainly stated so on the monument? Our Confederate dead is hardly a message of intimidation. America is a place of many cultures, many political opinions, and many values. True tolerance, which respects individuals without necessarily approving of everything they believe or espouse, is essential. Let's show the world that we are a place of true tolerance where we can honor our Confederate dead while standing against police brutality with a mural proclaiming to the world Black Lives Matter.

Thomas J. Crane, an attorney who represents individuals in employment actions and has appeared in both state and federal court, says the charges of racism against Confederate memorials wouldn't succeed in a court of law.

In a most intriguing article titled, *Confederate Monuments and Racism*, Crane writes:

"I represent victims of discrimination. Like historians, I am in the business of accusing persons or entities of discrimination. But, if I tried to accuse a person or statue of racist bias based solely on speeches by third parties, I would likely be sanctioned by the court for filing a frivolous lawsuit...There are several alternative explanations for why these statues were erected.

"The challenge regarding the Confederate monuments is there is always a legitimate alternative explanation. The United Daughters of the Confederacy was founded expressly to commemorate the deceased Confederate veteran. The Confederate States of America was not the United States of America. That means there was no government effort to mark the passing of these hundreds of thousands of veterans. If the UDC or some organization like the UDC did not raise the funds for these monuments, it would not be done...

"Certainly in most communities, the Daughters were part of the white power structure. But, being part of the dominant white society does not mean those Daughters necessarily sought to support Jim Crow laws when they erected those monuments."

Crane is right. There are many other valid reasons for Confederate monuments, which received broad support in the day of their placing.

History shows Confederate veterans were dying at the time and family members wanted to memorialize their fathers, brothers, and husbands before their passing. Others felt that their loved ones who suffered, sacrificed, and died in that great conflict deserved better recognition and more prominence than what they received in a cemetery for the Confederate dead. Reconstruction had also ended, and there was more money available for building and raising these memorials. Moreover, such monuments were seen as reunification symbols, where the Confederate heritage was brought into the larger American context, acknowledged, respected, and tolerated.

One might ask, if the sole purpose of these monuments was to lionize White Supremacy and slavery, why wasn't this stated on the monuments? No such pattern exists.

You will here detractors yell traitor but is that true? How can Confederate soldiers be traitors when the states in which they resided had seceded from the Union, as was their Constitutional right, and formed a new country of which they were citizens? The fact that the government was too afraid to charge any Confederate with treason for fear they would lose is all the vindication needed to disprove the detractors.

Thomas E. Woods, an American historian, who is both a Harvard and Columbia University graduate, correctly argues in, *The Politically Incorrect Guide to American History*, that "slavery was far from the only issue on Southerner's minds, particularly since the great majority of Southerners did not even own slaves. For their part, Robert E. Lee and Stonewall Jackson, two of the South's best-known Generals, described slavery as 'a moral and political evil.' Lee had even been an opponent of secession, but fought on the side of Virginia rather than stand by as the federal government engaged upon the mad project of waging war against his state. Recall that Virginia, Tennessee, Arkansas, and North Carolina seceded only after Lincoln had called up 75,000 volunteers to invade the South and prevent its secession. These four states, therefore, certainly did not secede over slavery, but rather over Lincoln's decision to use military force to suppress Southern independence."

In the same article referenced earlier, Crane contends that "alleged prejudice must be based on more than mere speculation and tenuous inferences." The case must be proven, and the preponderance of the evidence must reasonably conclude racist intent. The evidence doesn't show this to be the reason for erecting Confederate monuments. Even racial motivations do not necessarily constitute a racial purpose. Moreover, pulling down said monuments, more often than not, produces Orwellian ends. If the monuments are taken down, there remains only a one-sided account. There is no way to ponder them and the full significance of their meaning, as well as the lessons they can teach.

Taking down monuments and memorials is a revolutionary tactic of history. Burn the books. Destroy the landmarks. Topple the statues. Flatten the memorials.

In a quote from George Orwell's dystopian novel, 1984, we read, "One could not learn history from architecture any more than one could learn it from books. Statues, inscriptions, memorial stones, the names of streets, anything that might throw light on the past had been systematically altered."

Here's another: "Every record has been destroyed or falsified, every book rewritten, every picture has been repainted, every statue and street building has been renamed, every date has been altered, and the process is continuing day by day and minute by minute. History has stopped, nothing exist except an endless present in which the Party is always right."

Isn't this what we are witnessing? – an intentional and imposed ignorance.

It's an appropriate question to ask where this will end. What else besides Confederate monuments is next to be removed or hidden away in some rather obscure place? Will it be statues of Washington and Jefferson? What about the U.S. Flag? Could it be the Christian Cross on steeples and buildings? Might it be any reminders of America's heritage or Western Civilization that causes offense, makes people feel unwelcome, or hurts their feelings?

It isn't spurious to question whether the goal or the outcome will be to lose ourselves in the mass mind and the mass will.

While there was cheering at the fall of Silent Sam at UNC, the lawless action of the mob which perpetrated the crime signals a time of future mourning. A time when intolerance is supreme, lack of knowledge predominant, and uniformity enforced.

Yes, this matter is of considerable import to our state, nation, and Western Civilization.

Dr. Mark Creech is executive director of the Raleigh-based Christian Action League of North Carolina, Inc. He also serves as president of the American Council on Alcohol Problems.

## Conversation

FOLLOW THIS CONVERSATION TO BE NOTIFIED WHEN NEW COMMENTS ARE POSTED.FOLLOW



LOG IN | SIGN UP

- ALL COMMENTS  
Newest  
All Comments

# Start The Conversation

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## ACTIVE CONVERSATIONS

The following is a list of the most commented articles in the last 7 days.

• A trending article titled "[CNN's Don Lemon calling Jesus 'not perfect' is 'blasphemy,' Mike Huckabee says](#)" with [117](#) comments.



[CNN's Don Lemon calling Jesus 'not perfect' is 'blasphemy,' Mike Huckabee says](#)  
[117](#)

• A trending article titled "['White supremacy' is the new 'homophobia'](#)" with [71](#) comments.



['White supremacy' is the new 'homophobia'](#)  
[71](#)

Ads by Revcontent

## TRENDING TODAY

### [Beauty Surgeon Says: "Do This If Your Eyebrows Are Disappearing"](#)

[Beverly Hills MD](#)

### ["They Almost Killed Me" Why Tommy Chong Doesn't Trust CBD](#)

[Tommy Chong](#)

### [Chiropractors Baffled: "30 Second" Stretch Relieves Years of Back Pain \(Watch\)](#)

[WeeklyDentist](#)

### [What Your Dog Is Trying To Warn About If They Sleep All Day](#)

[E. Net](#)

### [Florida Doctor "I Beg Americans To Throw Out This Vegetable Now"](#)

[A. J. Rosal, MD](#)

### [Florida Drivers With No DUI's Getting A Pay Day On Tuesday](#)

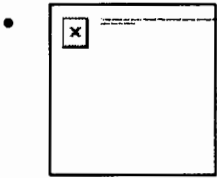
[D. J. ...](#)

## RELATED ARTICLES

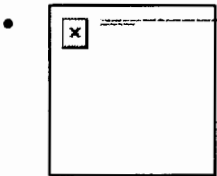
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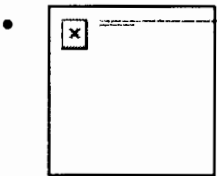
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**The Media Is Generally Ignoring the Other Story Out of Charlottesville**

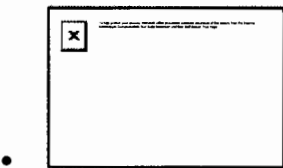


**OneRace Movement: A United Church Can Heal Racial Divisions**



**Instead of Tearing Down Statues ... Rename the Russell Senate Office Building for Hiram Revels**

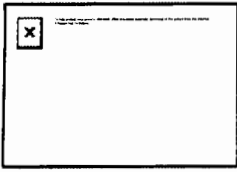
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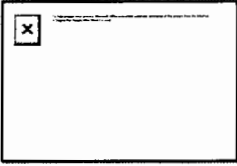
**'Duck Dynasty' Star Sadie Robertson and Bob Goff Deliver True Hope**



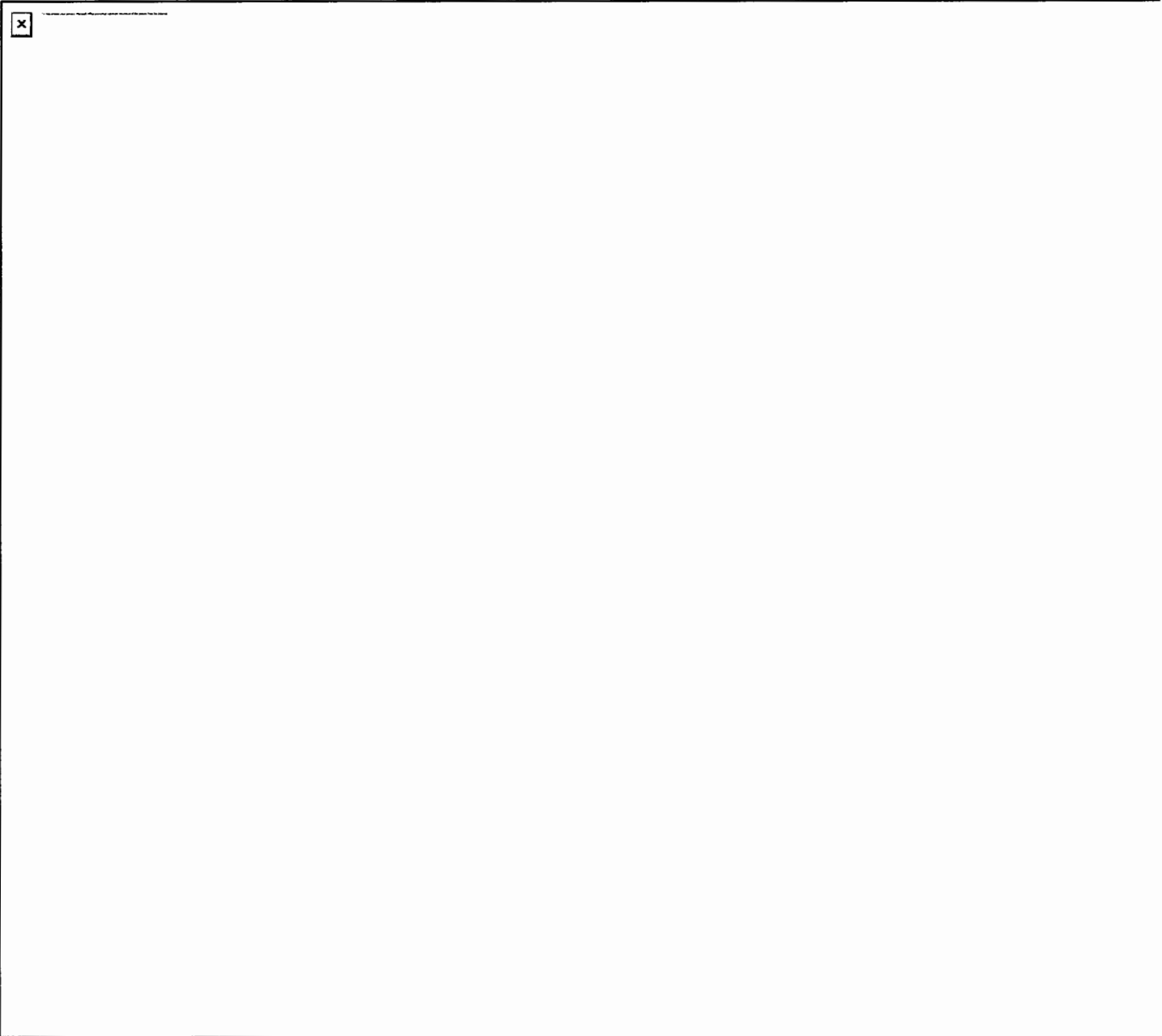
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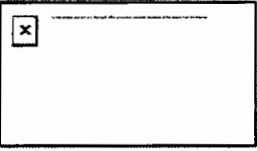
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• **CNN's Don Lemon calling Jesus 'not perfect' is 'blasphemy,' Mike Huckabee says**



• **Why it matters Jen Hatmaker endorses her daughter's homosexuality**



• **I'm in the 18% of white evangelicals who won't vote for Trump**



• **International evangelist Morris**



## Don Kraher

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**From:** schadsj@cox.net  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 10:13 AM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Historical Monuments/Lee Square

**THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT**

Please read: What will change when historical monuments are removed? Racism will still exist. It has always been from the beginning of time. In the human race exist good and bad motives and behavior in all professions. It is the hearts of people that has to change and God is the only one that can do that. History is history no matter what era of time. We haven't learned anything. Sincerely, Shirley Schad, 850-455-2350

## Don Kraher

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**From:** J Moore <jmoore7706@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 10:33 AM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Please do not take down the Iconic and Historical Lee Monument.

THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

Please read into record for July 14th Pensacola City Council Meeting

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** J Moore <jmoore7706@gmail.com>  
**Date:** Tue, Jul 14, 2020 at 4:29 AM  
**Subject:** Please do not take down the Iconic and Historical Lee Monument.  
**To:** <MayorRobinson@cityofpensacola.com>, <jcannada-wynn@cityofpensacola.com>, <ahill@cityofpensacola.com>, <jjerralds@cityofpensacola.com>, <jmoore@cityofpensacola.com>, <aterhaar@cityofpensacola.com>, <smyers@cityofpensacola.com>, <pcwu@cityofpensacola.com>

Please read into record:

July, 12, 2020

Dear Mayor Grover and Pensacola City and County Council Members

### **I am emphatically "Opposed to removing" the Iconic and Historical Confederate Monument.**

The Lee Monument **MUST** stay to "respect" the women and citizens who built Pensacola to what it is today, who lost their husbands, sons, family members and all loved ones many from Pensacola, descendants, and to respect those soldiers of all races, religions and creeds, who served during the Civil War! Please do not erase their history and their story.

#### **Argument:**

**1) By taking down the Lee Monument, it would most certainly create even more "division" among the citizens of Pensacola and surrounding cities. It will create even MORE racial division!**

**2) The Monument is almost 130 years old and WILL NOT survive from being "fractured" if not broken which will cost the taxpayers even more money to repair. I am against the removal because of the risk of breaking, as was the case during the removal of the Manatee County (Please see and click on example A) Confederate Monument which they now know was a huge mistake! The Granite within the Monument has settled and more than likely will not survive a removal due to its great size. If moved to St. John's (even though Stephen Mallory is buried in St. Michael's) cemetery, it will more than likely be vandalized or destroyed with no cameras or accountability, Museums have no place for such a Monument of this stature. Please let it rest where it is, in peace. Please do not risk breaking it!**

**3) The Original and Permanent site was chosen by the grieving women of the Confederate and the City of Pensacola, in North Hill, just outside of downtown Pensacola, not in the middle of downtown as cited by Kyle Cole with Black Lives Matter. Back then they did not have cars, cell phones and typically walked or used a horse and buggy. Pensacola has grown in 130 years and will continue to grow!**

4) The COST will be outrageous! It will cost the Pensacola Taxpayers far more than \$10,000, more like \$40,000 to \$100,000! Businesses are LOSING their entire livelihoods because of COVID-19 and instead of helping the economy bounce back in downtown Pensacola, you want to spend money on removing a 130-year-old Monument? It is positively irresponsible to do this in the middle of a pandemic! I ask that all estimates are transparent to the taxpayers before removal!

5) The City of Pensacola, of ALL places, should be protecting ALL of its history, good and bad as America's 1<sup>st</sup> city! We should save ALL Monuments, Statues, ALL places in Pensacola that honor and our history is represented.

6) The City of Pensacola has worked so hard to "PROTECT" its history and has successfully managed to do so until now? The Monument has withstood many hurricanes and other natural disasters and has proven to be a place of important history in Pensacola. To move it is a hurtful decision and I do believe it will reflect in the next voting cycle. I do believe that Pensacola as a majority would vote to keep the monument and it should be the Taxpayers decision and not the City Councils alone. It is against the law, unconstitutional and the President of the United States has asked you to protect all Veteran Monuments. My/Our great grandparents are not here to speak so it is important to respect their wishes and to not decide this for them.

7) The argument that many say that the Civil War was only about Slavery and Racism is simply incorrect. The War Started over "Heavy Tariffs" (please see exhibit B). The argument that it is that Council Member Meyer feels that Stephen Mallory, Jefferson Davies, Robert E. Lee and other names mentioned on the Monument are "not significant to Pensacola. She does not understand that those were names significant to the Confederate as The President of the Confederacy, The Governor of Florida and the Secretary of the Navy who became a resident of Pensacola. At that time, they were significant. Furthermore, the War was NOT just about slavery. Please see exhibit "C." It is important to respect our Black Confederate Soldiers and those who served for the Confederate as they had a story to tell and the monument does not discriminate that is is ONLY for "White" soldiers. They deserve our respect as well. Please see Exhibit "E."

The Civil War was a very difficult decision for both sides for many reasons. The South was outmanned, had far more financial resources and the South, which Our Pensacola is located, suffered great loss. Can you try to imagine the heartache of those women who lost so many husbands, sons and loved ones, many never knew what happened to their loved ones which was mental torture! How dare we judge them and take down the only way they knew to grieve their beloved, Husbands and children! It is a disgrace and a slap in their faces that we even consider destroying their reasoning for erecting the Monument. These women held raffles, dances and did whatever they could to raise money to put this Monument in Pensacola. It was that important to them that they have a place to go to mourn and pay tribute to their loved ones and to honor all of the brave veterans and those who served in the Civil War, even slaves and black soldiers as this is THEIR legacy too! It is a disrespectful act towards women not only then but now. Please see Exhibit "D". Even Mayor Grover Robinson thinks it is disrespectful to women and I appreciate that. The bottom line is: To take down this very important monument is erasing history, and is the first "domino" to fall! This is a door opening for other important Monuments and Statues to come down in Pensacola for those who are "offended" by other statutes. None of them should come down and in fact, they should be protected as Pensacola is the MOST HISTORICAL city in the country! Monuments and States teach us lessons we would never know otherwise.

#### **8) Public Law No: 108-29 (05/29/2003)**

Veterans' Memorial Preservation and Recognition Act of 2003 - Establishes criminal penalties for willfully injuring or destroying or attempting to injure or destroy any structure, plaque, statue, or other monument on public property commemorating the service of any person(s) in the U.S. armed forces. Requires that veterans' cemeteries be treated as sites permitting supplemental guide signs on Federal-aid highways.

The President of the U nited States has asked all bodies of Government to Protect ALL Veteran Monuments.

**9) This will not end racial issues by taking down the Lee Monument. This is a “Marxist Movement to destroy anything with Christian or Jewish Values, or anything that glorifies our Forefathers and Veterans who risked their lives for us to assure our freedom. Taking down the Monument will only create a bigger division and not solve any peace in Pensacola.**

**A Suggestion to be a part of the Solution:**

**1) Kyle Cole, who is only ONE citizen in Pensacola, by the way, nor does he present all of the citizens in Pensacola, He however was gracious to talk peacefully with people who want to save the Monument and they bridged a gap in conversation! However, even he admitted that taking down the Lee Monument may not be an answer. I applaud him for having a beautiful conversation with the Save Our History Pensacola and we need more of THAT! Not tearing down but building UP! Tearing down a Monument is no different if A City Council does it or Antifa! It is painful no matter who takes it down, More Town Hall meetings to discuss racial issues and equality should be done!**

**2) It’s time to Build something as glorious, a Memorial Park paying tribute to the African Americans who achieved great things, those who fought for our country, those who have suffered. I am of course referring to General Chappie James, those who fought and died in all Wars, those who had served in African American Infantries, perhaps a tribute to the Tuskegee Airman and ALL African American War Heroes, some who are Pilots from Pensacola! Yes, those who served as soldiers or in other capacities during the Civil War. I even envision great sports heroes such as Emmitt Smith, Derek Brookes, Roy Jones Jr. and so many wonderful African American Icons who have achieved great things from Pensacola or who lived or served in Pensacola. I also think it should be a Monument of Progression from Oppression to Leadership and Legends of today! I think that is important to heal and bridge Pensacola.**

**3) I feel there should be more programs for children and parents to come together of all colors, and provide more community resources for the black community. There should be more community programs welcoming inclusiveness for all. Black Lives DO Matter so let us tell their story and build some well overdue tributes and Monuments and statues! Not to tear down but to continue the Pensacola story and fill in the gaps that we missed along the way but please don't take down our ancestor’s legacies. Instead please consider building a more “inclusive community.” Please see exhibit F for suggestions on building an inclusive community Tool Box.**

Exhibit A) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UMqMrMDSKvs>

Exhibit B) [https://www.marottaonmoney.com/protective-tariffs-the-primary-cause-of-the-civil-war/#:~:text=For%2072%20years%2C%20Northern%20special%20interest%20groups%20used,ability%20of%20foreigners%20to%20sell%20in%20domestic%20markets. /](https://www.marottaonmoney.com/protective-tariffs-the-primary-cause-of-the-civil-war/#:~:text=For%2072%20years%2C%20Northern%20special%20interest%20groups%20used,ability%20of%20foreigners%20to%20sell%20in%20domestic%20markets./)

Exhibit

C) [https://www.google.com/books/edition/Confederate\\_Military\\_History/pkeZvQB7\\_hAC?hl=en&gbpv=1&dq=confederate+pensacola&pg=RA1-PA19&printsec=frontcover](https://www.google.com/books/edition/Confederate_Military_History/pkeZvQB7_hAC?hl=en&gbpv=1&dq=confederate+pensacola&pg=RA1-PA19&printsec=frontcover)

Exhibit D) <https://ricksblog.biz/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Monument-Clipping-.jpg>

Exhibit E) <https://scv.org/contributed-works/black-confederates/>

Exhibit F) <https://ctb.ku.edu/en/table-of-contents/culture/cultural-competence/inclusive-communities/main>

I am a descendant of those who explored and settled in Pensacola with Galvez. My great Grandfather was the Fire Chief for the Fire Dept on Gregory Street (Now McGuires) and my great Uncle had Lee Lumber Company where the Fish house is today. His office is the old Papagalla Shoes building that still stands in Seville Square today. My family helped to contribute to the preservation and building of Pensacola. My grandparents lived in East Hill and raised collectively eleven children, my parents and aunts and uncles. My Uncle Hargis Campbell is still alive and living in Pensacola married Betty Brown who's family owned Brown Shoe Store on Jefferson St. My Father last owned W.B. Wood Company on Garden Street. My mother's claim to fame is that she testified in the Ted Bundy Trial as he wrote a bad check at her bank where she worked on Garden Street but worked in the Banking Business downtown for twenty years of her career. Great Grandparents, Grandparents, Parents, me, my child and grandchild have been members and were married, and baptized at Sacred Heart Catholic Church and have five generations sit in those pews. We bleed Pensacola and have since the 1700's.

I am a daughter of both Confederate and Union Armies. I can't help that. That is who I am. My Ancestors, including my Great Grandmother and grandmother helped to preserve the Lee Statue. Now before you judge my family and tell me that my family was a bunch of racist bigots please let me go on and tell you about my beautiful family. The blood that runs through my veins is the very blood that you want to erase from Pensacola's history, My great grandmother served food to the black community in the 40's and 50's because she had a passion for raising the standards of equality. She helped start a soup kitchen and cooked out of her own home on Moreno St. My Uncle Bill served in World War I before he started Lee Lumber Company in Downtown Pensacola. He fought very hard along with his parents against racism. Their parents who were children of the Confederacy taught them that we must never discriminate and always love each other and we must be the examples to be kind and not have racism in our hearts. That is what they taught me and my parents. My great grandmother wanted to preserve the Lee Statue because she knew many friends whose family members died during the Civil War and she felt it was important that we honor our Pensacola soldiers who died during that War. It was NEVER about showing "White Supremacy" and I NEVER once heard that in my lifetime. I grew up in Pensacola and Gulf Breeze. My family did not teach me to be a racist nor where they. I am so proud of them because they wanted to be the "change" for equal treatment for all no matter what color we are and stood against their own friends who were racists in the 40's and 50's. All of the Krewe of Lafitte Parades and events that went on and near Lee Square as a starting point of watching the parade, never once did anyone point out the Lee Monument was about white supremacy, Only recently have this come up in my lifetime and I have lived over five decades!

In conclusion, If you vote to take the Lee Monument down, it will feel like you are taking one of my limbs. That is my family history and so many others as well, Many, I feel Most to the Pensacola Tax payers DO NOT want this and I passionately ask you to not give in to one group and ignore the other side, the descendants and ancestors of those who fought so hard to get this Monument to Pensacola. You are erasing your History if you begin to take down the Lee Monument and others. This Monument is well documented and used on several postcards over the years. It is listed as a Historical Monument in the Florida Historical Society, and is listed in many documents, books, and documentaries. How so you just erase that? Please don't! Let us continue this debate of the true reason for the Monument. I am so passionate about the Lee Monument staying where it is that with respect, I can not support or vote for those of you who vote to take down the Monument! It will hurt deeply and I feel it will be time to put new people who care and want to preserve ALL things Pensacola. I hope you understand. Leaving the Monument where it is, would be the right thing to do so that it sends a message to our Ancestors that we preserve our history and our past. I thank you for your time.

Pensacola Strong and Blessings to you,  
Jennifer Moore  
Pensacola and Sarasota, FL Resident  
[JMoore7706@gmail.com](mailto:JMoore7706@gmail.com)  
941-203-9166

## Don Kraher

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**From:** Roderick Cooper <cooper0246@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 10:40 AM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] request to be read into the record

### THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

Hi Don Kraher,

If possible, please have the following read into the record during the Special Meeting for the Confederate Monument.

Thanks,

Roderick Cooper

650-861-7811

5632 Grande Lagoon Blvd

Pensacola, Fl 32507

The Confederate monuments honor those that were willing to fight to the death to retain the "right" to enslave other human beings. Imagine how an African American must feel when they see a monument to those that fought to keep their ancestors enslaved. How is an African American to believe they will be treated equitably by a community, when that very community honors those that fought to keep their families enslaved.

These monuments ARE part of our history, but a history that needs to be remembered in such a way that it is not repeated. It is not a history to be honored with monuments in city parks and in front of government buildings. It is unimaginable to think of monuments to Adolf Hitler and his fellow Nazis standing in German parks and in front of German government buildings. It should be just as unimaginable for Pensacola to memorialize those that fought to retain the "right" to enslave the men, women and children that are the ancestors of fellow members of our community and helped to build it. Instead of honoring those that fought for the "right" to enslave others, we should honor those that survived being enslaved and those that gave their lives to free men, women and children they had never met.

To honor the Confederacy with monuments is to say that our community is not appalled by slavery being a part of our history, but that we are even receptive to it.

## Don Kraher

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**From:** William Turner <WilliamTurner61@mail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 10:54 AM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Confederate monument

THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

Dear Sir:

I would like to add my views of the current situation if I may.

The city council exists to represent ALL Pensacolans, not just the perpetually offended group that is trying to destroy views they disagree with. These are the same type people who tried to go after the Bayview cross and will next try to remove the Spanish statues and monuments in the Veterans park if they are not stopped now. People could even use their hateful logic to even go after the MLK statue.

Inclusion and diversity mean respecting all viewpoints. For these reasons, the historical Confederate memorial should remain untouched.

Thank you for your time.

William Turner  
Pensacola

## Don Kraher

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**From:** Mary Kerchner <mkcpa32501@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 11:08 AM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Comments to be read aloud July 14 meeting

**THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT**

Please read my comments aloud during the meeting.

Dear Mayor and City Council:

I am a resident of the city of Pensacola and a voter. I respectfully request that you reject outright the proposal to remove the Confederate memorial which is on Palafox street. Please do not give in to this mob of people bent on destruction. The recent news of statues of every kind being torn down, even U.S. Grant and Frederick Douglas, is evidence that destruction is the goal. No matter how much you give in to the mob, they will never be satisfied.

The man atop the pillar shows an unarmed soldier in thoughtful introspection after the south's surrender. The 129 year old statue does not glorify the civil war, racism or slavery. There are Confederate soldiers buried in Arlington National Cemetery and Public Law 85-425 dated May 23, 1958 conferred pensions to widows of Confederate veterans. Ironically, it seems the further we get from the civil war, the more harshly it's veterans are being judged.

If one statue is taken down, all should be taken down. Who are we to pass judgement on those who went before us? How will you feel when someone takes exception with Vince Whibbs and wants to remove his statue from the Maritime Park? Think of all the places named after Native Americans or Native American words (such as Pensacola) that would have to be changed if we made a rule of removing honor from them because they were slave-owning people who lost their war with the Europeans.

As a taxpayer I strongly request that city funds not be used to remove this memorial. The historical culture of downtown Pensacola is part of the city's considerable charm and I believe removing this statue is an unnecessary expense and submission to the mob. Removing the statue would be nothing more than virtue signaling at its worst.

What is the rush? At least, do not make a decision at this time when emotions are running high and a pandemic is interfering with people's ability to come in person to the meetings. Such a hotly contested matter should be put to a vote of the people of the city, or better yet the county.

Regards,  
Mary



## Don Kraher

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**From:** Thomas Jackson <becauseofthebrave1776@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 11:52 AM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Read at Special Meeting 7-14

**THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT**

Read into the record.

The vote regarding the Confederate Monument on Palafox needs to be delayed for two reasons:

1. The restrictions caused by the current pandemic make it difficult, if not impossible, for many voices to be heard. Many members of the community are from a generation that will probably struggle to operate a virtual meeting.
2. Proverbs 19:2 says, "Also it is not good for a person to be without knowledge, and he who hurries his footsteps errs."

Don't rush to a decision just because other cities have been foolish enough to do so. Wait until ALL the people have an opportunity to voice their opinion on this matter.

Tom J.

## Don Kraher

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**From:** Troy S. Schoonover <troyschoonover@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 12:16 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Comment to be read at 14 July City Council Meeting - Timed to be read at a normal pace at under two minutes

### **THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT**

Four years after the Civil War, Gen. Robert E. Lee stated, "I think it well, moreover, not to keep open the sores of war, but to follow the examples of those nations who endeavored to obliterate the marks of civil strife and to commit to oblivion the feelings it engendered."

Due to its location in a traffic circle, I never bothered to stop and inspect our Confederate Monument closely. I simply saw the inscription, "Our Confederate Dead" when driving by. It seemed innocuous enough. Knowing more about the monument, specifically who it celebrates on its other sides, and how it came to be there, I am opposed to keeping it in such a prominent place in our community. Remove it to a cemetery if it must still stand somewhere, but it does not deserve to stay where it is.

I am a proud Republican. Democrats put that monument where it is today, but only after managing to use a Democratic-controlled legislature to revoke Pensacola's city charter. They replaced the elected city leadership who was majority Republican at that time and who represented the ethnic diversity of Pensacola's residents. The new city council appointed by the state were all Democrats and did not represent the diversity or electoral preferences of Pensacola's citizens. The new city leaders installed by the state immediately set about causing racial division, renaming Florida Square after Robert E. Lee, who would not have wanted that done, and allowed a monument to be erected in Pensacola, perpetuating those feelings Gen. Robert E. Lee said should be committed to oblivion.

Restoring Florida Square and removing or relocating that monument will right an historic wrong, help us heal, and move forward together, embracing Pensacola's legacy as a diverse community that can live, work, and worship together in peace.

Troy S. Schoonover  
Cantonment, FL

## Don Kraher

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**From:** Stephanie Schwartz <stephanieschwartz14@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 7:57 AM  
**To:** Don Kraher; P.C. Wu; Sherri Myers; Andy Terhaar; Jared Moore; John Jerrals; Ann Hill; a-wynn@cityofpensacola.com; Grover C. Robinson, IV  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Letter for 7/14 special meeting

**THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT**

"Please read into the record."

Mayor and City Council Members,

Today is the day you have the chance to land on the right side of history. The side of preservation and honor, not destruction. We, the people of Pensacola want our history preserved. The Lee Square Memorial should NOT be renamed, removed, or altered in any way. You swore to uphold the will of your constituents. Do your duty to us and protect our history. In closing, I see that the cost of removal and relocation of this monument will cost \$45,675.00. No doubt that will be at the expense of the taxpayers. If you attempt to make us fund the dismantling of our history which we do not agree with and do not want it will be a severe abuse of power on your part. Elections are just around the corner. I suggest you keep the voting members of your community in mind while making this decision.

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Pensacola Citizen



## Don Kraher

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**From:** Brett Minor <beminor440@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 12:42 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Confederate Monument removal and Square renaming (to be read during July 14th meeting)

**THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT**

The erection of Confederate monuments was largely supported by pro-segregationists, members of the KKK , and/or KKK sympathizers in an effort to re-write history. Instead of using words such as "treasounous" and "traitors" to describe the men who fought for the Confederacy they chose/choose to use words such as "brave" and "gallant". Those who choose to diminish the role Slavery had in the Civil War need to not look further than the States Proclamations of Succession, which make it very clear that the institution of Slavery was a central tenet of the Confederate State's reason for Succession. These men do not deserve to have Monuments in Public places and on/around Government property. Their names and likenesses should be left in history books and museums with an accurate assessment of who they were and what they stood and fought for.

If we need any other reasons please look to what Robert E. Lee himself said of the erection of Confederate memorials in 1869 "I think it wiser, ...not to keep open the sores of war but to follow the examples of those nations who endeavored to obliterate the marks of civil strife, to commit to oblivion the feelings engendered."

Please remove all Confederate monuments and change the name back to Florida Square.

Brett Minor

## Don Kraher

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**From:** Lil Eubanks <lillyeubanks45@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 11:46 AM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Confederate Monument

**THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT**

I would appreciate it if you would read this at the City Council Meeting tonight.

When I was a young person, I believed that everything I read in history books was completely true. It wasn't until I was working on my Masters Degree in history that I realized that history is seen through the eyes of people. The people who write history interpret it through their own experiences and beliefs. After the Civil War and Reconstruction, many Southerners rewrote history to reflect their beliefs that the South before the Civil War was all that was best in the world. Gentle ladies and charming men, who were benevolent plantation owners with slaves that were happy to serve their masters and do their bidding. As you can imagine those slaves had a different point of view as to what their lives were like.

After the Reconstruction period many Southerners felt they needed to put black people "in their place." Their efforts led to rewriting history, the enactment of Jim Crow laws, the rise of the KKK and the installation of confederate monuments throughout the south. Those monuments were meant as reminders of the belief that white people were superior to black people. A reminder of the "Old South" where everyone knew their place and white supremacy ruled.

Although many things have changed since the confederate soldier statue was put up in Lee Square, it is time to finally understand that all people are created equal and we need to remove all symbols that were put in place to infer that any one group of people is superior to another. Having that statue prominently displayed in our city is like flying a Nazi Swastika over city hall. It is offensive. Take down the confederate monument and stop glorifying a past in which one race acted as if they were superior to another! Let's bring together the people of Pensacola to make our city a better place to live.

Thank you for your consideration.

--  
Lil Eubanks, 8123 Six Pence Dr., Pensacola, Fl., 32514  
Please note that my new email address is  
[lillyeubanks45@gmail.com](mailto:lillyeubanks45@gmail.com)

## Don Kraher

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**From:** Melanie Nichols <nicholsmelanie2@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 3:10 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Cc:** Ann Hill; Sherri Myers; Jewel Cannada-Wynn; Grover C. Robinson, IV; Keith Wilkins  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Confederate Monument

### **THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT**

Dear Mayor, Council President, Council Members, Mr. Kraher, and Mr. Wilkins,

Thank you for this opportunity to hear from the public on this issue and special thanks to Keith Wilkins, City Administrator, and City staff members for the carefully researched Historical Context Review Memorandum. It provided valuable research for the public about how the Park name was changed and how the monument came to be placed so very long after the Civil War.

I won't be long because I know that you have many people to hear from this evening, but I wanted to let you know that I support your decision to rename the Park back to Florida Square, it's original name, to once again rejoin our other North Hill neighborhood parks of Alabama Square, and Georgia Square. I support and encourage Council to remove the monument from this site and place it in either St. John's or St. Michael's Cemeteries where it can be a true memorial to the dead, and/or remove the statue and panels to reconfigure the obelisk to something that represents our much beloved City.

The monument does not reflect our community today and did NOT reflect our community when it was originally placed. It truly marked the beginning of the end of the Reconstruction Movement in Pensacola after the War and marked the beginning of the Jim Crow Era. At the time it was placed, our city's population was 48 percent Black, and Black leaders represented our City and County government in over a dozen positions. A hostile takeover of our City's Charter by White Supremacists overtook our government and the Governor stripped Black leaders of their duly-elected offices, and appointed all-white Confederate sympathizers who then renamed Florida Square to Robert E. Lee Square. Soon after, they installed this monument at what would have been the highest, most prominent part of the City as part of the rebranding effort of the South in the "Lost Cause" narrative to rebrand the Confederates as "Heroes". The monument actually says, "The Uncrowned Heroes of the Southern Confederacy. Whose joy it was to suffer and die for a cause they believed to be just, their unchallenged devotion and matchless heroism shall continue to be the wonder and inspiration of the ages." These men were NOT heroes. They committed treason against the United States of America and were supporting the right to enslave human beings. Had the coup not have taken place, and our City Charter stolen from the voters, there was no way for the City to legally install this monument in a City owned Park because they didn't have the votes to do it.

It is long past time for this monument to be removed.

I have lived in North Hill where this monument is located for 20 years, and it is a horrible visual reminder of Pensacola's divisive, racist past. To keep the monument where it stands now, on tax-payer owned property, signals that we, as a City, cherish our racist past and want to keep it now in the present and future of Pensacola. The City has had decades to put other contextual signage or monuments in the Park to tell the 'real story', and has failed to do so. As President of the North Hill Preservation Association for over 15 years, I have fielded countless questions from people looking to buy a North Hill home asking about the 'climate' in our neighborhood because people don't want to live where they view the City/Neighborhood as being racist, hostile, white supremacists. That's what the monument signaled to the world when it was installed 129 years ago, and that's what it signals to the world today. It's long since time for it to go. I support Councilwoman Myers in her hopes that one day we will have a park dedicated to the Unity of all our citizens.

Please don't miss this opportunity to do the right thing.

Again, thank you for the thoughtful and respectful way that you are handling this issue.

Sincerely,

Melanie Nichols  
14 E. Gonzalez Street  
Pensacola, FL 32501

## Don Kraher

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**From:** Brock Walker <brockwalker@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 3:19 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Comments to be Read - 14 July City Council Meeting

### THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

Mr Kraher,

Below are the comments I wish to be read at tonight's meeting (14 July 2020). My information is at the bottom of this email if needed.

"My name is Brock Walker and I was born and raised in Pensacola, and live and work here today. I'd like to speak in favor of the removal of the Confederate statue and in favor of the renaming of Lee Square.

These legacies were established not merely to honor those who died in the war, but as part of an effort to lionize the South's struggle during a period of concerted Southern effort to thwart black influence, equality and suffrage following reconstruction. These efforts took many forms, often brutal, always immoral, and some more cultural and subtle, such as the reframing of the Confederate actions as a noble lost cause. I understand those supporting the statue may not know this, or may simply feel a stronger connection to what the statue and square mean to them personally, but the truth of these efforts is undeniable and historical.

I love Pensacola. I love the South and Southern culture. But celebrating our culture and heritage should not mean holding its greatest moral failings in high public regard. And as a white man, I refuse to hold my own personal experience as somehow more salient or valuable than that of my black neighbors, by ignoring what this statue and square means to them and their heritage.

Please take this rare opportunity to uphold the true virtues Pensacolians hold in high public regard. Those of community, equality and truth."

Brock Walker  
1821 Whaley Ave  
Pensacola FL, 32503



## Don Kraher

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**From:** SAVE SOUTHERN HERITAGE <floridasshe@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 3:27 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Comment to be read at Special Meeting Today: Re Lee Square/Cenotaph

**THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT**

Please read this into the public record at the 7/14/2020 meeting.

Thank you

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Some estimates are that 1/3 of the American population are of Southern descent.

In the minority, it is not surprising that there have been many smears made on the South, Southern People, Southern Culture, Southern Flags and Southern Veterans.

Southern people have been vilified, our heroes slandered and our the history of our people's death struggle against a tyrannical federal government erased.

Those who used to blame Southern monuments and memorials for all of America's problems, have quickly advanced to blaming the rest of American history. We have seen the destruction, vandalism of Christian crosses, Statues of Priests, and American Presidents, including the President who fought against the men on the monument have been targeted.

Pensacola as a rich history, it should not be ashamed of the past, it should learn from it.

The ladies who caused that memorial to be didn't have the right vote, but they wanted to express their Southern patriotism, the same the still survives in the Southern family today.

Mr. HK Edgerton expresses his regrets that he cannot be with you today in person but sends this message "taking down this memoria - I to red - yellow black - brown and white southern soldiers - is tantamount to cultural genocide of people who look like him who served honorably for the South."

Thank you.

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Have a Dixie Day!

Save Southern Heritage Florida  
[www.sshfi.org](http://www.sshfi.org)

## Don Kraher

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**From:** Terrel Beckham <tvbeckham@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 3:48 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Citizen Input on the Subject of the Lee Square Memorial

THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

Don Kraher  
City Council Executive  
City of Pensacola

Dear Mr. Kraher,

Please read my comment aloud at the city council meeting, discussing the future of the Lee Square memorial.

Chip Beckham

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE PENSACOLA CITY COUNCIL

I am opposed to the removal of the monument to "Our Confederate Dead" from Lee Square.

Although I live in Georgia now, I was born in Pensacola and lived there for thirty years. My roots run deep. As a child, I've seen the monument atop Palafox Hill many times. Only as a young adult did I study it closely and read the inscriptions. The people erecting such a dignified structure in 1891, gave the best of their talent and treasure to memorialize losses they saw as personal, in a war ended less than thirty years prior. Civil War memorials abound in this country. Gettysburg, Pennsylvania alone is home to more than 1,000 such war memorials.

I'm reminded of a photograph taken in the early 20th century. With the Lee Square memorial in the background, a group of civil war veterans posed in the foreground. Perhaps fifteen in the group. This was a group of grizzled, white-haired men, several of whom were missing arms or legs. They knew the horrors of war and dealt with the demons of their sacrifice into their twilight years. I can't name these men or know their stories, but I can imagine that shared moment in the presence of the memorial was source of some comfort. Comfort to those who survived and to their memory of those who died on the battlefield. Thus the reason for all such memorials erected by people over millennia.

Let the memorial stand that the confederate dead shall be remembered. Indeed, the nation has "bound up its wounds" and has grown from the experience. Let us not repeat the mistakes of our past. Contextualize the monument, if needed, but let it stand so future generations can read of us and know that we, as a noble people, respected the sacrifice of our forefathers and made the world better because of it.

Chip Beckham  
Snellville, Georgia

## Don Kraher

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**From:** LM S <lunelle63@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 3:51 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item today - Lee Square and Confederate Monument

**THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT**

Please read the following into the record today 7/14/2020

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I am a female, professional historical tourist that lives in Florida.

My husband and I spend 15-30 room nights annually in hotels visiting historic sites.

We like to come back to cities multiple times to learn more and more about Florida and our history.

Though I grew up in Okaloosa County, as a young person, I wasn't too interested in history and had no idea about Pensacola's history and in the last two years, have visited twice, and have been looking forward to returning.

But I will never ever ever come back to Pensacola if you declare war on history. It isn't just anti-fa and black lives matter that are vandalising or civic landscape.

If you vote to tear down Pensacola you are no better than the 3rd Reich's Nazi Ministry of Propaganda that destroyed the cultural heritage in the countries they invaded.

Lunelle McCallister

## Don Kraher

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**From:** Christina Lowery <christinamlowery79@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 4:45 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Monument & Lee Square

### THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

Dear Don Kraher & Council Members,

As I sit here and ponder of what to say to help SAVE our Monument I also feel as I'm fighting for America. History shows that when statues and monuments are being torn down deliberately, such as when Saddam's monument of him was torn down his country felt revolutionized. We have lived through Revolution, came from the European countries and fought to keep America's Freedom and her Liberty's.

Pensacola in 2019 won First Place in an international contest " The Strongest Towns" which we were 52% ahead of a 42% Portsmouth, New Hampshire, with both cities with striking similarities & 400 year old history. Pensacola's historical landmarks, rich diversity, growing economy & tax base, was won by "focusing on the heart and soul of the city: Pensacola's historical downtown which was first built in the 18th century, promotes pedestrian-friendly design. Pensacola's downtown is lively and the pride of the Florida Panhandle". The first champion from the South. This should be noted.

It also takes me back to the time of Civil War when 11 States succeeded from the United States and became the Confederate States of America. Jefferson Davis a Confederate but also elected as president to the Confederate States of America, should also be recognized as a man who took in and rescued a young Jim Limber Davis (black boy), is represented on the monument along with Secretary of the Navy Stephen Mallory who rest in St Michael's Cemetery, the 14th Governor of Florida Edward Aylswel Perry who was also a confederate general, & Uncrowned Heroes, which represent All the men lost battling for the Confederate army. All these men are represented here at Lee Square. Back in 1885 it come about to erect this Monument and it was to be placed in Tallahassee. Funds did not come easy and yet all but \$87 was given by Pensacolaians (citizens). William D. Chipley and dedicated "Ladies Confederate Monument Association" worked tirelessly to get it accomplished. We are and were proud, dedicated, hard-working, caring citizens that love our hometown. Things that have happened in history cannot be lost just by the removal of a monument. We cannot deny the Fact that Florida was once considered the Confederate States of America. Must our history be denied because some look at it with blind eyes. Monuments of the Confederates represent states of the Confederate and the men that dedicated their lives to Hold Steady in which they fought for what they felt right. We only see (by monuments) , read and hear what has been recorded throughout history. Let us continue to be able to share, talk and bring our children to this Monument so that they may see for them selves the sacrifice that was made, so they will not repeat what has already taken place.

-Christina Lowery,

Proud native citizen of Beautiful Pensacola Fl.

## Don Kraher

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**From:** CECIL MCLEOD <mcleodcecil@bellsouth.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 4:50 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Removal of all Confederate monuments

THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

To be read: (or submitted if too long)

We can't erase the hatred, brutality, and injustices of our past, but we can move forward by condemning the people responsible for those evils; thus the removal of their statues and other positions of honor.

Let's all step into a brighter, united future by cleaning up our ugly, shameful past. We're citizens of the United States of America— NOT the Lost Cause Confederacy!!! Let's grow; let's heal; let's unite!!!!

Gloria McLeod

Sent from my iPhone

## Don Kraher

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**From:** Jon Deckert <jondeckert@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 4:58 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Confederate monument meeting submission

### THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

Good afternoon,

As a citizen of Pensacola and a resident in the Florida Panhandle for the majority of my life, I encourage Pensacola's City Council to move forward with the removal of the Confederate monument and renaming of Lee Square. I encourage you to follow the recommendations expressed by Mayor Robinson, Mr. Quint Studer, and Mr. Drew Buchanan to name a few. I do think that is important to remember our history to grow and prevent repeating past mistakes and tragedies from repeating themselves. However, it's important to have a distinction between remembering and glorifying events in our history. Glorifying the confederacy is not a step in the direction of unity.

Robert E Lee's view on confederate monuments was this: "I think it wiser not to keep open the sores of war but to follow the examples of those nations who endeavored to obliterate the marks of civil strife, to commit to oblivion the feelings engendered." I would not call this a passionate call for confederate monuments but rather a desire to move forward and allow old wounds to heal. The campaign for Confederate monuments began more than 30 years after the end of the Civil War. The Daughters of the Confederacy lobbied to reshape the confederacy's motives with a campaign considered "The Lost Cause" and included monuments in their efforts. The Daughters of the Confederacy campaign itself was not included in school history books that I recall, however, their revisions were. So, to the citizens who fear history being erased by the removal or relocation of the Lee Monument, I ask "What about the vast amount of history that was left out from the start and the history that was reframed by the author's views?"

I ask all council members to consider a new symbol that would better reflect the history we are proud of and shapes the community we want going forward. One that is no longer a symbol of division, both when it was built and in the present day. Thank you for your time, allowing me to share my voice, and considering the recommendations from Mayor Robinson, Mr. Quint Studer, and Mr. Drew Buchanan.

**Jon Deckert**

## Don Kraher

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**From:** Neil Seay <nesea2001@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 5:09 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] The Confederale Monument at Lee Square : My thoughts, views, ideas and perspectives

**THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT**

Attn: Don Kraher

From: Neil Seay  
511 N 70th Ave  
Pensacola, FL 32506-5111  
(504) 296-7136

Subject: This afternoons meeting concerning the fate of the Confederate Monument on Lee Square, here in Pensacola Florida.

These are my thoughts, views, ideas, and perspectives concerning this matter of what should we should do.

I wish and request that these thoughts be read into the record of the meeting that starts at 530pm today July 14, 2020.

For starters, I am a retired 66 year old white southern male. I am originally from north Georgia. Most of my immediate ancestors are from the Gainesville, Cornelia, Clarksville, Blairsville and Hartwell areas of the state. Many of my ancestors fought and died for the Confederacy. None of these that I speak of today owned slaves, My ancestors were hard working folk, mostly poor dirt farmers, who took up arms along with the rest of their neighbors to fight off an invading force from the Northern states. They were being taxed at that time to the extent that they barely buy the seeds for their crops, let alone put food on the table. I am a believer in human rights, slavery was a bad thing, many of my ancestors were also slaves and indentured servants, AND some were indentured to Black slave owners from up north in New York and Mass. These were the poor Irish that come to America during the potato famine of Ireland. When they were able to buy their freedom, they immigrated south. My wife is Japanese, My sisters oldest daughter has been Married to a fine Black gentleman for over 20 years, I have 3 beautiful bi-racial great nieces and 1 great-nephew from this union. My oldest great-nieces is into her 2nd year at the University of Georgia. My brothers oldest daughter is married to a fine Mexican gentleman, who is an American citizen, and they have a beautiful daughter together. I have Cherokee blood from 3 directions on my mothers side running through my veins, these escaped the great Trail of Tears, that cost so many thousands of Cherokee lives at the hand of Union soldiers in the early 1800's. Google a confederate soldier by the name of Leander Crumley, he was my G.G.G. Grandfather, there is a web-site for him

that has many many letters back and forth between him and my G.G.G.G Grandmother, while he was out in the war. He fought in Cumberland Gap and the Battle of Vicksburg. Was in a Confederate hospital at Chattanooga for some time. He died at the age of 33 leaving behind a wife and 5 young children.

His wife, my G.G.G.G. Grandmother was Nancy Jackson Crumley, she was a cousin to Stonewall Jackson. I also had (they have passed on) two 3rd cousins who were also 1st cousins to each other and first cousins to my mother's, mother. They were both from Young Harris, Ga.

Zell Miller, was a vice Governor of Georgia, as well as, Governor of Georgia, and U.S. Senator, his 1st cousin, Ed Jenkins was a Congressman from Georgia, in the House of Representatives for many many years. They were of the Democratic Party before it went Liberal Socialist. I am a Republican, proud to say.

I am of proud heritage, of which has had it's very much hardships along the way, and still does. I am of a very diverse family, where there is great food and great conversation of many subjects. I am also a history buff, and have studied American History and World History to some length. There are so many falsehoods floating around these days. This Confederate Statue on Lee Square. represents many good and many bad things to each individual who looks upon it.

It is more of a part of our Pensacola History that anything else. It represent a time gone buy, good or bad, we should embrace that time and learn from it. By taking it down, that does not erase the past, it does not give closure, it only says to the Peoples of that time, of all races and backgrounds, that their time here on this earth, that their lives did not matter. They walked this earth, they walked this city, this country, they were not perfect. Neither are we. We must walk this earth, children of God, however we may worship him, and learn as we go. Mistake will be made, and people will be hurt, thing will happen that should have not, but, memorials and statues are put up for a reason, and that is for us not to forget our past, but to constantly be reminded of it, good or bad, so that we do not make the mistakes that were made again, and to rejoice in the rewards that were won. It's all in each of our own personal perspectives.

Here is a probably a bad example: What if I said that the MLK Bust and the name of Martin Luther King Plaza on Palafox offends me, (which it doesn't) because I am white, and White Lives Matter. I start a petition to have it removed and the name changed, would that be treated in the same light. What I am trying to say here, is, it seems that if just one or two individuals are offended about something, then action has to be taken to do their bidding. The majority does not have a say. Plain common sense has no say.

I truly believe, that in all respect, this situation should go to the voters of Escambia County, and should be put on the ballot for vote. Otherwise you will most likely have alot of unhappy souls out their who will be passing blame on the Members of the City Council com election time. The statue has been there for a long long time and has not hurt anyone yet.

Thank you for your time  
Sincerely Yours,  
Neil E. Seay

ps: please reply to let me know that this was received and read by each member of the council and that it was entered into record.



## Don Kraher

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**From:** Mark Lynn <mlynn5997@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2020 8:48 AM  
**To:** Don Kraher; P.C. Wu; Sherri Myers; Andy Terhaar; Jared Moore; John Jerrals; Ann Hill; a-wynn@cityofpensacola.com  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Letter for 7/14 special meeting

### THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

"Please read into the record."

KEEP THE CENOTAPH AS IS WHERE IT IS BECAUSE,

"Not to know what came to pass before you were born, is always to remain a child." - Marcus Tullius Cicero

And we're seeing a lot of children today. In government, celebrity and athletic comments, as well as rioters in the street.

Concerning the Lee Square Cenotaph Monument,

Delay until we are out of a city-wide Code Yellow for Covid

Delay because all this undue stress on city staff and council members weakens their immune system and many are in the AT RISK age. Kraher having to read emails in a mask for 3+ hours is unhealthy and dangerous.

Delay because it's been here for 130 years, what's a few more months. Why the rush?

Delay so both sides can be heard. It took almost 2 years of discussions from citizens regarding naming the \$420 million MEMORIAL 3 mile bridge to Gen Chappie James...an African American.

Delay because many on the other side need their voice heard without repercussions to their businesses for speaking out.

Delay because many on the side of keeping history are older and not as tech savvy to navigate a virtual meeting.

Delay until the civil unrest regarding police reform has settled. The 2 issues are not related.

KEEP THE CENOTAPH AS IS WHERE IT IS BECAUSE,

"Not to know what came to pass before you were born, is always to remain a child." - Marcus Tullius Cicero

And we're seeing a lot of children today. In government, celebrity and athletic comments, as well as rioters in the street.

## Don Kraher

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**From:** Bill Johnson <pasatiempo98@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2020 8:54 AM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Monuments

### THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

Dear Executive Kramer,

Please submit the following to be read during the City Council meeting concerning monuments. Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Eleanor Johnson

Dear Members of the City Council,

A white woman born and raised in the South, I remember well the fight for Civil Rights, the gruesome killing of young Emmet Till, white men dragging a black man through the streets to “skin him” before hanging, and other unspeakable acts.

When I look at the monuments, I’m reminded of an even earlier time when blacks were slaves with no voice or vote and the glorification of white leaders, no matter how brave, who led the fight to keep them that way.

Yes, the Civil War was also about States’ Rights—for whites. But remember “e pluribus unum”? We’re all in this together.

It’s past time to retire the monuments to a museum. Thank you.

## Don Kraher

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**From:** Jonnie Burch <jonnieburch@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2020 8:56 AM  
**To:** Don Kraher; P.C. Wu; Sherri Myers; Andy Terhaar; Jared Moore; John Jerrals; Ann Hill; a-wynn@cityofpensacola.com  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Letter for 7/14 special meeting

**THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT**

Dear Mr Terhaar and Mr Kraher,

Please read into the record.

I am requesting a delay to the vote regarding the Lee Square Monument. This is a monument that has graced our community for over a hundred years and removing it requires input from all citizens who wish to participate and voice an opinion. Delaying your vote and opening discussion for everyone, not just a few, will inform voters when your re-election is placed before the electorate.

Jonnie Burch,  
district 3

## Don Kraher

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**From:** Klaus-Dieter Naumann <klausandmickie@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2020 9:07 AM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Letter for 7/14 special meeting

THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

"Please read into the record"

\*Delay because it's been here for 130 years what's a few more months.

Why the  
rush?

\*Delay so both sides can be heard. It took almost 2 years of discussions  
from

citizens regarding naming the \$420 million MEMORIAL 3 mile bridge to  
Gen

Chappie James...an African American.

\*Delay because many on the other side need their voice heard without  
repercussions to their businesses for speaking out.

\*Delay because many on the side of keeping history are older and not as  
tech

savvy to navigate a virtual meeting.

\*Delay until the civil unrest regarding police reform has settled. The 2  
issues are

not related.

## Don Kraher

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**From:** Jennifer Adkins <jgwadkins@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2020 9:18 AM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Confederate Monument Comment for Council Meeting

THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

**Please read this comment during the Council meeting:**

I hope Jim Little's PNJ article about the monument was required reading for the council. The cited article reveals an historical interpretation of Confederate statues erected during the 1890s-1920s, that obscured the actual purpose - to intimidate black Americans; a constant reminder that they would not share in the freedoms afforded white Americans in Pensacola.

As Pensacola moves forward as a destination for national and international visitors, we should publicly demonstrate a commitment to historical accuracy, as we have successfully accomplished in Pensacola's popular Historic District. A historical marker in the renamed Florida Square (the original name) could be a 'monument' to a community bonded together to endorse equity, and honesty.

The Confederate monument could be placed in an area that is dedicated to honoring war casualties - a museum or cemetery.

It too is history, and contains an important lesson for Pensacola, and our visitors.

Jennifer Adkins

## Don Kraher

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**From:** Tom Riederer <hubris47@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2020 2:10 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Confederate memorial removal.

**THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT**

I request that this comment be read aloud during tomorrow's meeting.

I am firmly in favor of leaving Pensacola's Confederate memorial in place and adding historical interpretive material to enable people to better understand the personalities and times involved, enabling us to learn from our history rather than denying it.

However, since the removal of the monument seems to be pre-ordained, I would like to propose another monument to replace it. I only recently noticed that Admiral Mason Park, which memorializes every conflict from the Revolutionary War to the War on Terror, has nothing for the Civil War! There are numerous war dead from Pensacola, on both sides of that most destructive conflict, that deserve a remembrance here as much as those from any other war. A memorial to these dead and to the war in general, without distinction as to which side they fought on or any political overtones, would be a healing exercise and something everyone should be able to support, especially if it were made a community project. As for symbology, how about crossed Union and Confederate (the first national flag, not the battle flag) flags and a period bugle?

Tom Riederer  
1300B Pinnacle Dr., Pensacola

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

## Don Kraher

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**From:** Paula G Drummond Law Office <pgdlaw78@cox.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2020 2:45 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Message in support of removing Confederate Monument

**THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT**

Mr. Kraher: Please read this statement at the City Council Meeting:

I support the removal of the confederate monument in Lee Square. Pensacola is home to residents of many races and ethnicities. We are a multi-cultural population, each member of which should be respected and honored. Pensacola also invites and welcomes people from all over the world to enjoy our hospitality. All residents and visitors should feel welcome in our city – and a monument glorifying racism and division has no place here today. I agree with the suggestion to relocate the monument to a local cemetery. Please vote in favor of removing the monument from Lee Square.

Paula G. Drummond  
Attorney at Law  
PO Box 2637  
Pensacola, FL 32513-2637

## Don Kraher

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**From:** Lori Landrum <lclandrum33@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2020 2:24 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Letter for 7/14/2020 Special Meeting

**THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT**

**PLEASE READ THIS INTO THE RECORD**

Pensacola is Florida's First City and as such should reflect our fine City's history. I am requesting ALL of Pensacola's historical monuments remain. If we are going to be an inclusive community, it should include our City's history. We cannot cave to special interest groups. Our City's leadership should STOP this "divide and conquer" mentality and choose to unite our community through preservation of our cultural heritage. We should be a city that chooses education over destruction. If deemed necessary, erect an educational panel to reflect the norms of the past versus the social norms of today. In the alternative, place a referendum on November's ballot and allow the voters to decide rather than it being decided by only a few.

Sincerely

L. Landrum



## Don Kraher

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**From:** Joe Hemmer <jahemmer@cox.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2020 3:21 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] In support of removing Confederate monument

THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

Mr. Kraher: I request that you read the statement below during the City Council meeting. Thank you.

I grew up thinking the monument in Lee Square was a monument to the Confederates who died during the Civil War. We now know that to be imprecise. Honoring those poor souls who lost their lives in an awful war was camouflage for the furtherance of white supremacy. We must hope that Pensacola has become a city that welcomes all peaceful people and cultures and encourages diversity in all lawful endeavors. The issue before us is not the loss of history, but the maintenance of honor. I urge the City Council to remove the monument and, if feasible, donate it to St. John's Cemetery.

Joe Hemmer  
PO Box 2637  
Pensacola, Florida. 32513-2637

## Don Kraher

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**From:** Debby Lee <deb7784942@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2020 4:26 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Request to be heard on Lee's Square history

**THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT**

The reconstruction era lasted 20 years from 1865-1885

MonumentEdit

In 1881, Confederate general and future Florida governor Edward Aylesworth Perry led a movement to erect memorial in Tallahassee honoring the state's Confederate dead. Fundraising efforts were slow, with most donations coming from Perry's own Escambia County. After his death in 1899, only \$3,005 had been raised, all but \$87 of which from the Pensacola area.

In April 1890, the project was revived by William Dudley Chipley and its location moved to Pensacola. It would be built on Gage Hill, former site of Fort George, where "Florida Square" had recently been renamed "Robert E. Lee Park" in honor of the Confederate general. On August 15, 1890, the Ladies' Monument Association was founded to plan and execute the memorial. Angela Mallory (wife of Confederate navy secretary Stephen Mallory) was elected president, Chipley's wife Ann was vice-president, Annie J. McGuire was secretary, and Laura Thornton was treasurer.

"After Appomattox" by J. A. Elder

The group contracted with Washington-based J. F. Manning & Company to build the monument for \$5,000. It was to use granite from Richmond, Virginia — former capital of the Confederacy — and would feature inscriptions honoring Jefferson Davis and Pensacola's Confederate heroes. Atop the monument would be an 8-foot statue of a Confederate soldier, modeled from John Adams Elder's 1880 painting "After Appomattox" that hung in the Richmond capitol building. (The same image was used as the model of an Alexandria, Virginia monument erected in 1889.)

In March 1891, only months away from their deadline and still \$1,235 short of their budget, the group began a series of fundraising events. Episcopal Reverend P. H. Whaley gave a lecture about the 1886 Charleston earthquake, followed by a benefit supper where "well-known local virtuoso" Miss Alice Kauser played a piano solo and the Pastime Club of Pensacola performed orchestral music. Tickets were 25 cents, with dinner sold separately and other items auctioned off at various prices — for example, a pickle sold for \$1.00 and a glass of lemonade for \$20.00. Other fundraising programs featured a presentation by an elocution class; a musical performed at the Escambia Hotel; and a series of races at Kupfrian's Park hosted by the Pensacola Driving Association.

The Ladies' Monument Association had one of their final meetings on March 19, 1891, to determine the wording of the four inscriptions and plan for the dedication ceremony. They also purchased two cannons and 800 thirty-two pound cannonballs to adorn the park. The dedication was planned for June 3 — Jefferson Davis's birthday — but was pushed back two weeks after the project foreman from J. F. Manning became ill and some of the granite shipment was lost in transit.

The people of Pensacola should be given a vote whether or not to keep the monument.

Cordially  
Debby Lee

## Don Kraher

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**From:** Emily Echevarria <emilyaechevarria@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2020 4:36 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Comments for City Council Meeting - Remove Confederate Monuments

### THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

Good day,

Pensacola's identity as a city has long been tied to its history, but as we move forward to make our city a better place for all its citizens, it's long past time to reckon with the ugly aspects of that history that are deeply embedded in colonialism and systemic racism. The Confederate monument has no place in a public square where it stands as a symbol of the state-sanctioned racism and violence suffered by Black citizens. I fully support removal and renaming the square as one of many steps Pensacola leadership can take to begin to acknowledge the long shadow of racism that stretches over many aspects of Pensacola's "rich" history that have been whitewashed and ignored for far too long.

Emily Echevarria

**Remarks to Pensacola City Council 2020-07-14  
Bruce D. Partington (206 W. Lloyd St., Pensacola)**

Good evening. My name is Bruce Partington, and I live in District 6. I have lived in Pensacola since 1967 except when I was away at school. I had hoped to be able to speak to you directly this evening but work commitments are preventing it.

I wrote to each of you a few weeks ago in support of removing the monument and renaming the square and so will not repeat I said there.

What I want to say tonight is simply this: It is profoundly hard to unlearn something you learned. It is deeply challenging when something we were taught is actually untrue. Seeing that what we were taught in our youth is not, in fact, the truth, can seem like a challenge to our very selves. Learning that an "untrue truth" we were taught was actually oppressive and hurtful to our neighbors can be deeply unsettling. It can feel very much like we are being accused of the wrong ourselves, even though we are not.

I have communicated with Black friends who attended St. Michael's School, and heard what it felt like to see that monument as they entered and left school - every single day. Think of the message that monument sent to at least four generations of African American children in our City.

As you consider the future of the monument, I would ask you to consider several questions:

- How many Black voices were heard in the discussion in the 1890s about the erection of the monument? And if they had been heard – if they had been able to speak – what would they have said?
- Second, what message does that monument send?
  - What message does it send that it is surrounded by cannons?
  - What message does it send to people of color in our community?
  - What message does it send to businesses considering Pensacola as a place to relocate or expand?
  - What message does it send to our young people, regardless of skin color, about the future of Pensacola?

Thank you for your openness to learn and to listen – to unlearn the “untrue truths” that so many of us learned when we were young so that we can heal the wounds caused by our City’s past. Your decision this evening is a decision about the future of our City.

## Don Kraher

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**From:** Frank Fabre <Frank.fabre@fabreinc.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2020 4:48 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Confederate Monument Removal

**THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT**

Pensacola City Council Members: Please Read Into The Record.

While a number of probably good intentioned residents are urging you to vote to remove the Monument. There are many who are for leaving historical monuments of all varieties in place.

I am a native of Mobile Alabama and have lived in Pensacola since 1972, some 48 years. As a downtown Pensacola business owner for 39 years, I have had the pleasure of working with employees of white, black, brown and yellow heritages. I am not a racist, however there are some that might call me racist because I am not afraid to say that I believe the black, white, blue and All lives matter.

I have driven by the Lee Square Monument many, many times but have never stopped to even read the inscriptions, if there.

I have no real ties to the monument but believe that our History is extremely important and cannot be changed. As is said, ignore history and it will repeat.

My objection to removal of the monument is that it will be only the first step in Pensacola to change our culture. You are well aware of what is going on nationwide-moves to change names of military bases, sport teams, streets and who knows what!

Next will come the street names such as Jackson. There will be no end unless you have the backbone to take a stand against any and all efforts to "correct our past" by removal of monuments, changing names etc. and ,perhaps, rewriting our history books.

If the pressure on you, The City Council, is too great to take a stand, then put the matter on the ballot and let the voters decide.

Frank.

Frank J. Fabre, P.E., P.S.M.

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## Don Kraher

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**From:** Whitney Evans <whitneyuevans@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2020 5:10 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Lee Square

**THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT**

Hi Don -

I was born and raised in Pensacola, and five years ago, returned to start two small businesses. As an avid student of history, as well as a proud native Pensacolian, I wanted to share my thoughts on the statues:

Robert E. Lee was a complicated man, for sure, but honoring him in Pensacola makes very little sense as he never really spent significant time in the city, nor contributed to its success. The statues in question, as well as the renaming from Florida Square, were done in the spirit of intimidation and white supremacy well past Robert E. Lee's lifetime. Over a hundred years later, one would hope that we have moved past that ugly blot in our city's history and would make the right decision to return the square to a space that is inclusive to everyone.

Please count my vote in favor of removing the confederate statues and homages to Robert E. Lee.

--

Whitney Evans Sanders

**Don Kraher**

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**From:** glynn7brown@aol.com  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2020 5:54 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Cc:** glynn7brown@aol.com  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Letter to be read to the City Council of Pensacola

THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

City Council Executive Don Kraher

Dear Mr. Kraher,

Below is a letter that I sent to the Opinion section on July 2 to be published in the Pensacola News Journal. The original letter was sent to Mayor Robinson on June 26. I did not receive a response from either letter.

Since that day, there has been a noticeable dearth of articles published in the News Journal in favor of retaining the statue in its current location. Instead, a steady drumbeat of negative Democrat articles from out-of-town personalities has captured the Pensacola News Journal.

I was born in Escambia County in 1935 and grew up in Pensacola. My family and I have lived in Gulf Breeze since 2000.

To destroy any monument erected to recognize what transformed our country 150 years ago is a disservice to our citizens today, and to all their descendants in the future.

I would appreciate it if you will have this Letter to the Mayor read whole during the Tuesday Meeting, and into the City Council Record.

Thank you for your consideration.

Glynn Brown, AIA



## Architect

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

To: Opinion@pnj.com <Opinion@pnj.com>

Sent: Thu, Jul 2, 2020 10:11 am

Subject: Letter to the Editor

*I am Glynn Brown, 1251 Tall Pine Circle, Gulf Breeze 32561, phone (850) 932-8813.*

Dear Mayor Robinson,

Please stand up for the citizens of greater Pensacola today and tomorrow, and preserve all of our historic monuments in their original and prominent locations.

Reclaim the street name of Lee Square to it's original name of Florida Square, and leave alone the monument to the dead soldiers.

The monument on Palafox Hill stands for the thousands of unnamed dead, North and South; not a single person or general, or slave owner.

Imagine for a moment what a loss to the world it would have been if the Colosseum had been razed in 300 AD. No one person or lost cause is immortalized when you revisit the Roman structures that our civilization is built on, but we all can see the results in the World today.

Our city is recognized today because of a visible collection of monuments from the past: the Pensacola waterfront, Ft. Barrancas, the old Light House, the WW1 aircraft hangers, the brick paved streets, the downtown buildings and the 1909 ten story First National Bank Building. But none are identified by anyone's name, and neither is the lone soldier looking South from Palafox Hill.

Thank you.

Glynn Brown, AIA

NOT READ INTO RECORD  
DUE TO OMISSION ON  
MY PART

**Don Kraher**

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**From:** Susan Bullock <sbullock@avalex.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2020 1:25 PM  
**To:** Don Kraher  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] July 14th Council Meeting

**THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT**

Pensacola City Council Members:

I am writing to implore the Pensacola City Council to remove the Confederate Monument from Lee Square. I agree with & applaud Mayor Robinson's recommendation to remove the monument from the park. It certainly does not "reflect our current values" nor does it create an environment for healing/inclusion.

I have provided a link to the essay that Mayor Mitch Landrieu wrote on why he had concluded that the monuments in New Orleans needed to be removed (in 2017). Eloquently written and worth a read.

<https://www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2017/05/we-cant-walk-away-from-this-truth/527721/>

Be on the right side of history and remove this offensive statue from our town.

Best Regards,

Susan Bullock

3610 Molaree Drive

Pensacola, FL 32503

(If this is going into the public record please do not include my home address—it is provided only to prove that I am a city resident).

**SUSAN BULLOCK** //Sr. Business Development Manager

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