

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA
Richmond Division**

| | | |
|-------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| WILLIAM F. DAVIS, |) | |
| |) | |
| Plaintiff, |) | |
| |) | |
| v. |) | Civil Action No. 3:20-cv-403–HEH |
| |) | |
| RALPH S. NORTHAM, |) | |
| |) | |
| Defendant. |) | |

ORDER

THIS MATTER is before the Court on William F. Davis’ (*pro se* “Plaintiff”) Motion for Emergency Injunction, filed on July 17, 2020 (ECF No. 12). In his lawsuit, Plaintiff seeks to enjoin the Governor of Virginia, Ralph S. Northam (“Defendant”), from removing the statue of Robert E. Lee on Monument Avenue in Richmond, Virginia. Plaintiff further seeks a federally mandated directive for the statue to be cleaned.

Throughout the pendency of Plaintiff’s lawsuit, an injunction issued by the Richmond City Circuit Court has prevented the removal of the Robert E. Lee statue. On Thursday, July 23, 2020, at 2:00 p.m., that court will review the propriety and duration of the injunction. Plaintiff’s Motion seeks injunctive relief from this Court in the event that the current injunction is withdrawn by the Richmond City Circuit Court on that date.

In light of the unusual circumstances underlying this case, this Court finds it appropriate and necessary to expedite the deadline for Defendant’s response in this matter to allow the Court to review the pleadings prior to the hearing on July 23, 2020.

Accordingly, Defendant is DIRECTED to file his opposition, if any, to Plaintiff's Motion on or before Wednesday, July 22, 2020.

The Clerk is directed to send a copy of this Order to all counsel of record, Madeline Gibson, Robert McEntee, and to Plaintiff, who is *pro se*.

It is so ORDERED.



/s/

Henry E. Hudson
Senior United States District Judge

Date: July 21, 2020
Richmond, VA