



MISSOURI CIVIL WAR MUSEUM
222 Worth Road, St. Louis, Missouri 63125

June 16, 2017

Honorable Mayor Lyda Krewson
City of St. Louis, Missouri
1200 Market Street
St. Louis, Missouri 63103

Re: Confederate Memorial Monument Located in Forest Park, St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Mayor Krewson,

As you know, the Missouri Civil War Museum has been requesting for 1 ½ years that the City of St. Louis transfer the possession of the Confederate Memorial Monument currently situated in Forest Park to our museum. Our position in the matter of removing this monument has always been respectful in acknowledging and agreeing to the fact that the city does have the right to regulate certain matters within their parks. In regards to the Confederate Memorial Monument currently on display in Forest Park, we are simply stating that if the City no longer wishes to display the monument in Forest Park, we will remove it without delay and at no cost to the tax-payers of the City of St. Louis.

The museum and the vast majority of the citizens in our community do know that you inherited this issue from the previous administration and that you did not initiate the matter in the first place. We all do realize however, that you can resolve this matter quickly and professionally by allowing our museum staff to immediately engage with the current contractor you have already chosen to conduct the disassembly of the monument, and remove the monument into our care without any delay.

As you know, the Missouri Civil War Museum was gifted the Confederate Memorial Monument from the United Daughters of the Confederacy organization on June 13, 2017 and the Missouri Civil War Museum acknowledges that the Confederate Memorial Monument currently on display in Forest Park is now our sole property and we will remove it. The Missouri Civil War Museum can have the monument disassembled and removed from Forest Park and the city limits of St. Louis, by Friday, June 23, 2017 if you allow our staff to join with your current contractor (who we already know personally) and start the removal process on Monday, June 19, 2017.

Please note, our objective is the same as yours and that is to immediately remove this historic monument from your park property and remove it permanently from the city limits of St. Louis. We will guarantee that the monument will never be re-erected for permanent display within St. Louis City or St. Louis County, Missouri. If you decide to challenge our ownership of this monument that will of course have to result in immediate legal action being taken to prove our ownership. This will obviously stop the removal of the monument by both of us from Forest Park and will only delay our same shared objective in removing the monument from the park and from the city limits.

I look forward to speaking with you or your staff representative today, Friday, June 16, 2017 with a decision in what direction you wish to proceed in this matter.

Sincerely,

Mark L. Trout, Exec. Director, Missouri Civil War Museum

Cc: Mr. Timothy O'Connell, Chief of Staff
Mr. Lewis Reed, President of the Board of Aldermen
Ms. Tishaura Jones, Treasurer
Ms. Sharon Tyus, Alderwoman, 1st Ward
Mr. Frank Williamson, Alderman, 26th Ward