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The Black Clergy Collaborative of Memphis supports the peaceful removal of Confederate Statues/Monuments from public land

Memphis, TN: On behalf of thousands of our members and supporters, who live throughout Shelby County, including Collierville, we write to express our support for removing Confederate statues/monuments from public land.

Confederate symbols on public land, in effect, endorse a movement founded on white supremacy. The values of the Confederacy represent unrepentant white supremacy and disrespect the humanity of Black people. If our government continues to pay homage to the Confederacy, people of color can never be sure they will be treated fairly. And we will never solve our community's problems if an entire group of citizens is alienated or feels targeted for discrimination.

Confederate symbols belong in museums and on private property. In museums, we can learn their whole history. Citizens will always have the right to fly the Confederate flag. They can still erect monuments on their property. That will not change.

But it is past time to move these symbols to an appropriate place. We must show the country that our communities, including Collierville, give no safe harbor to the hatred these symbols represent. We must remove the monument located at Collierville Town Square, and we support Collierville Community Justice's efforts to do so,

About the Black Clergy Collaborative of Memphis: The Black Clergy Collaborative expresses the voice of the Black Church on issues of economic empowerment, civic engagement, and criminal justice reform.

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