

# United Daughters of the Confederacy®

## North Carolina Division

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 7, 2019

### **MOTION FOR PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION FILED REQUESTING COURT TO HOLD THE WINSTON-SALEM CITY OFFICIALS AT BAY TO PERMIT THE COURT TO RULE ON THE LAW SUIT FILED BY THE UNITED DAUGHTERS OF THE CONFEDERACY**

#### *Will City Officials Acquiesce to Anarchy and Empower Extrajudicial Mob Rule?*

On Wednesday, February 6, 2019, the United Daughters of the Confederacy, North Carolina Division, Inc., filed a Motion to enjoin Winston-Salem city officials from removing the Confederate Monument in downtown during the pendency of the law suit filed by the UDC on January 31, 2019. The Motion seeks to preserve the status quo, to let justice prevail, and to prevent the City from acting capriciously, and succumbing to mob rule by a few dissenters and vandals. We are requesting the City to act in accordance with existing laws.

The City has no standing or authority to remove this monument as they have stated in multiple news reports. They are misapplying the City Ordinance 62-3(b), which is part of the sanitation provisions of the Building Code.

The City has stated in public, through the press and in Court that individuals have defaced this monument and groups have demonstrated protesting the presence of the monument in downtown Winston-Salem. For these reasons, the City has declared the monument a public nuisance. It is our belief that the monument is not a public nuisance, but rather the individuals breaking the law by vandalism or threatening to break the law by removing the monument unlawfully. This is a manufactured crisis and these behaviors constitute a threat to the civil rights of the people of the City of Winston-Salem, the County of Forsyth, the State of North Carolina and our Nation. The monument has stood vigil in reverence of the men of Forsyth County who made the unlimited sacrifice. The U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs recognizes these men as veterans of the United States. This monument honors their memory.

Various media outlets, most notably the Winston-Salem Journal, have published statements by the Mayor of Winston-Salem, and other City officials, that the City will take the monument down without going through the proper legal process. See Winston-Salem Journal article, 02-01-19 ([https://www.journalnow.com/news/local/confederate-stature-can-be-moved-by-winston-salem-judge-rules/article\\_14ce14a7-b581-595e-a2c6-6008b8cdcdf8.html](https://www.journalnow.com/news/local/confederate-stature-can-be-moved-by-winston-salem-judge-rules/article_14ce14a7-b581-595e-a2c6-6008b8cdcdf8.html)), within which contains the following text: "City officials said Wednesday that they will remove the Confederate statue downtown sometime after Thursday and without filing any legal notice."

In our Motion for a Preliminary Injunction, the UDC is simply asking the court to direct City officials to follow the law. The Mayor and the City of Winston-Salem do not have any legal standing or right to remove or alter the statue in any way, as this is a state, county and UDC issue. We believe that the Confederate Monument is a public monument governed by the North Carolina State Statute regarding Monuments, Memorials and Parks, N.C.G.S. Chapter 100.

We ask the courts to direct city officials, and the public, to respect and follow the rule of law, and not succumb to government rule by mob or vandals.

The UDC has created a GoFundMe to defray cost of the litigation thrust upon us by the Mayor of Winston-Salem. We ask all interested individuals to make a donation to help us protect the rights we all cherish. The address of the GoFundMe page is [www.crowdrise.com/o/en/campaign/protect-the-monument/](http://www.crowdrise.com/o/en/campaign/protect-the-monument/) or people may donate directly to [www.ncudc.org](http://www.ncudc.org)