



OFFICE OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Marc Elrich
County Executive

James Stowe
Director

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Montgomery County Human Rights Commission and the Office of Human Rights Support the Removal of Confederate Monuments

The Montgomery County Human Rights Commission and the Office of Human Rights support the removal of confederate monuments and symbols from our public spaces. As long as they remain, such monuments to the confederacy serve the purposes for which they were constructed: to glorify a system of governance that promotes white supremacy, racism, bigotry, and intolerance. We support the removal of these historical remnants, which continue to uplift discrimination, enslavement, and oppression.

Our position on the removal of confederate monuments is consistent with our support for calls from peaceful protest demonstrators -- the time is now for fair treatment by law enforcement officials and equal protection under the law.

We further call for a comprehensive review of current law enforcement techniques and procedures in Montgomery County, including the use of deadly force, chokeholds, and no-knock warrants. We support the incorporation of mandatory de-escalation techniques and continuous racial equity training for law enforcement officers at every rank.

Finally, we call upon our Montgomery County decision-makers, police chiefs, the County Sheriff, the Fraternal Order of Police, community leaders, and relevant county and city departments/agencies to convene public dialogue sessions to determine which services currently provided by law enforcement would be better performed by other agencies. These decisions on genuine police reform and the reallocation of funds to social, mental health, and other agencies should be made in a timely way to both recognize the tragic events we have witnessed nationally and to safeguard and protect our community at home."

Montgomery County Human Rights Commission
Montgomery County Office of Human Rights

21 Maryland Avenue, Suite 330 • Rockville, Maryland 20850 • 240-777-8450 • 240-777-8460 FAX
www.montgomerycountymd.gov/humanrights