

## Department Orders



### Department of the Southwest Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War



#### GENERAL ORDER 03 (SERIES 2017-2018)

#### Confederate Monuments and the Confederate Battle Flag

Brothers,

The SUVCW's stance regarding the removal of Confederate monuments and the flying of the Confederate battle flag has been revised which necessitates the issuance of this General Order as a revision to Department of the Southwest General Order 02 (Series 2017-2018).

The official position of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (and therefore the Department of the Southwest) is contained in the attached policy which was approved during the 136<sup>th</sup> National Encampment at Lansing Michigan in August 2017.

Should a Brother be contacted about the Department's or the SUVCW's stance regarding the removal of a Confederate or Union monument or tablet or the flying of Confederate battle flags the requestor will be referred to the respective Camp Commander or the Department Commander. The Camp Commander or the Department Commander, in turn, will then obtain the required approval from the Commander-in-Chief pursuant to his General Order (below) prior to taking any other action.

Brothers will not act as a spokesman or agent of the SUVCW regarding the removal of veterans' monuments by statements written or oral using the organizations name, symbols, letterhead, or while in the branded attire of the organization. For more complete information see the following General Order issued by SUVCW Commander-in-Chief Mark R. Day and the attached (revised) SUVCW Battlefield Flag and Monument policy.

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General Order No. 02 SERIES 2017-2018 21 August 2017—Commander-in-Chief Mark R. Day

“1. I hereby direct, with the concurrence of the members of the Council of Administration, that all departments, camps, and individual brothers refrain from acting as a Media spokesmen or agent for the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War or to become involved in the pursuit of any civil actions (legal proceedings), on behalf of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, regarding the removal of veteran's monuments, without first contacting the Commander-in-Chief and receiving authorization from him.

a. Acting as a spokesman is defined as making statements written or oral using the organizations name, symbols, letterhead, or while in the branded attire of the organization to include SVR uniforms and symbols.

b. This Order in no way is intended to preclude the exercise of your rights as an individual outside of the SUVCW.

2. The Commander-in-Chief will serve as the primary point of contact on all media inquiries involving the removal of veteran's monuments. Media outlets should be directed to forward their inquiries to the SUVCW National Headquarters at 1 Lincoln Circle at Reservoir Park, Suite 240, Harrisburg, PA 17103-2411 Telephone: (717) 232-7000 Fax: (717) 412-7492.”

Ordered this 21<sup>st</sup> day of January, 2018

/s/ David A. Swanson, Department Commander

ATTEST /s/ Dale E. Enlow, Department Secretary

## **Battlefield Flag and Monument Policy**

As approved during the 136st National Encampment  
Lansing, Michigan, 2017

WHEREAS, we, as the descendants of Union soldiers, sailors and marines and revenue cutter servicemen who, as members of the Grand Army of the Republic, met in joint reunions with Confederate veterans under both flags in the bond of unity.

WHEREAS, we, as members of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War strongly condemn the use of any American or Confederate flag by any and all hate groups.

WHEREAS, we the members of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War strongly condemn the removal, defacement or destruction of any Civil War Veterans Monument or tablet, whether Union or confederate.

WHEREAS, we, the members of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, support the flying of all U.S. and C.S.A. flags at our National Battlefield sites and to be honored publicly in museums as our authentic archival documentation of our National past.

THEREFORE, we, the members of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War are committed to teaching the history of the American Civil War in our educational system and ask that all descendants of Civil War participants join us in this endeavor.