

JL Turner Legal Association Press Release on Charlottesville, VA

(Dallas, TX, 8/17/2017) On Saturday, August 19, 2017 tragedy occurred in Charlottesville, Virginia when Neo-Nazis, Klansmen and white supremacists came to Charlottesville heavily armed and spewing hatred and bigotry, which ultimately resulted in the death of 3 individuals and injury to approximately 30 others. J.L. Turner Legal Association extends its heartfelt condolences and prayers to the families of the victims of these senseless and racist acts and those injured in the wake of this hate-filled display.

Following this tragedy, the President of the United States has defended white supremacists rather than unequivocally condemning them. For 150 years, from President Grant to Presidents Kennedy and Johnson, the power of the Presidency and the national government have been used to reign in white supremacists who killed and terrorized civilians—but President Trump's comments show that the moral leadership the Presidency has traditionally held will be non-existent during his administration.

Leaders from across the political spectrum have spoken clearly and definitively against this white supremacist ideology, and we demand that Donald Trump do the same. "Both sides" were not at fault for this tragedy. Only one side was spewing racism, hatred and bigotry. There is no moral equivalent between bigots and racists and those protesting against this evil ideology.

J.L. Turner joins the voices of many in our nation and calls for the country to unite in the condemnation of all forms of racial bigotry, hatred and violence.

Since 1952, J.L. Turner Legal Association has been on the forefront of fighting for racial justice in Texas and in this nation. As we celebrate 65 years of existence, Saturday's tragic events remind us that much work is still needed on the part of our communities and the government to defeat racial hate, discrimination and violence in this country. Although we all know that phrase so eloquently written by Thomas Jefferson that "All Men Are Created Equal" was not meant to apply to every American citizen when originally drafted, through progress in our country, we have come to expect it to apply to every citizen in this great nation today.

J.L. Turner Legal Association affirms the ideals and principles of America that promote freedom for all, no matter race, color, creed, religion, sex or sexual orientation. For we as a nation must reject those who seek to divide us with bigotry and hate, whether local, state or federal, and all embrace America's promise of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.