

October 22, 2020

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U.S. Capital Commission
DHR
2801 Kensington Ave.
Richmond, Va. 23221

Dear Gentleman and Ladies,

I always loved to ride down Monument Ave. and enjoy the change of seasons. Coming from the mid-west at a young age I did not take notice of the statues, or what they represented. In the last few months the whole world has taken notice.

I saw in the paper that Circuit Judge W. Reilly Marchant is to have a ruling in a few days; I have a suggestion for the Lee Statue that might settle the dispute on both sides, maybe a compromise can be met by just removing the general from the top of the very proud horse. The pedestal could be stained transparent black to show some of the 'art'. A plaque could read VIRGINIA WEEPS FOR PEACE or HUMANITY CRIES FOR PEACE. Maybe that might please the community.

PS—I am not a professional artist but I was a designer of church windows in the 80's for a company known as Woody Stain Glass. I read that the commission is only considering people to replace the statues that have been removed. I would like to suggest some ideas that might give joy to the community and tourist in the future, symbols of the nation and Virginia. Beauty in Mother Nature.

I can vision a Statue of Liberty
A symbol of Justice
A family of deer
A bear with her cubs
A school of fish around a pedestal
A flock of bird taking flight
An American Indian, such as the tribe that settle the James River area.
A see through globe of the world
An American eagle with its wings open wide.

Thank you for your time,

Conchita Peaks