



GENERAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
Zoom Meeting Minutes
7:00 PM CDT; November 21, 2022
Approved January 12, 2023; Zoom Conference

Call to Order: 7:01 PM CDT by Commander-in-Chief R. S. Jason Boshers.
Opening Prayer: Chaplain-in-Chief Gary Carlyle

Roll Call: Chief-of-Staff Darrell L. Maples

Commander-in-Chief R. S. Jason Boshers	P	Adjutant-in-Chief Dan A. McCaskill	A
Lt. Commander-in-Chief W. Donald Kennedy	P	Judge Advocate-in-Chief Scott D. Hall	P
ANV Commander R. Kevin Stone	P	Chief of Heritage Ops James Ronald (Ron) Kennedy	P
AOT Commander Jimmy D. Hill	P	Chaplain-in-Chief Gary Carlyle	P
ATM Commander J. C. Hanna	P	Past Commander-in-Chief Larry A. McCluney, Jr.	A
ANV Councilman Kenny Ramsey	P	Past Commander-in-Chief Paul C. Gramling, Jr.	P
AOT Councilman Carl Jones	P	Past Commander-in-Chief Tom V. Strain, Jr.	A
ATM Councilman Charles L. Lauret	P	Executive Director Adam T. Southern	P
Chief-of-Staff Darrell L. Maples	P		

Basis for Quorum 14 voting members: Present: 13, Absent: 1; Required for Quorum: 8. Quorum is present

Note: Past CIC's are not obligated to attend GEC meetings and therefore, only if present shall they, or any one of them, be counted in the computation of a quorum. (Reference: Section 7.5.2 of the SCV Constitution). The quorum is based on the eligible voting members.

Non-voting member: Executive Director Adam T. Southern

Commander-in-Chief R. S. Jason Boshers gave Lt. Commander-in-Chief W. Donald Kennedy the floor for personal privilege with which Donnie thanked everyone for the kind words and prayers with the passing of his daughter.

At 7:07 PM CDT, Commander-in-Chief R. S. Jason Boshers asked Judge Advocate-in-Chief Scott D. Hall to address the Georgie – South Carolina Lawsuit on the re-naming of the Jefferson Davis Bridge and the Spartanburg, South Carolina Flag Pole lawsuit in South Carolina.

Judge Advocate-in-Chief Scott D. Hall reported the first issue is a proposal to re-name the Jefferson Davis Bridge and to remove the two plaques and statue on the bridge. The Georgia Division and South Carolina Division both request permission to pursue litigation to stop these entities from violating their respective State Heritage Ordinances or Statutes. These Divisions are currently not asking for funds. Judge Advocate-in-Chief Scott D. Hall recommended that permission be granted to enter into litigation. After a brief discussion of the issue, AOT Councilman Carl Jones made a motion to allow the Georgia and South Carolina Divisions to pursue litigation in the name of the Sons of Confederate Veterans. The motion was seconded by Past Commander-in-Chief Paul C. Gramling, Jr. and the motion passed without objection.

The second issue is the Spartanburg Flag and Flag Pole. The South Carolina Camp purchased land, obtained all necessary permits and all necessary approvals from all appropriate government entities to erect the 120' flag pole. They flew the South Carolina Flag for two months then replaced this Flag with the Confederate Battle Flag. At this point, the Camp was notified by the Building Department that the Camp had not obtained a needed permit even though they were told they had complied completely with everything needed and must remove the flag pole. This is nothing more than a political move to prevent the Confederate Flag from being flown which is a violation of free speech. Judge Advocate-in-Chief Scott D. Hall recommended that permission be granted to enter into litigation. ANV Commander R. Kevin Stone made the motion to give the Spartanburg Camp permission to pursue litigation in the issue. Past Commander-in-Chief Paul C. Gramling, Jr. seconded the motion and the motion passed without objection

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The last item on the agenda is the Confederate Monument in Edenton, North Carolina is threatened to be removed by the Edenton Town Council and County Commissioners. The monument has been in place since 1909. ANV Commander R. Kevin Stone reported the entire State is waiting for the decision of the North Carolina Supreme Court decision on the case of the United Daughters of the Confederacy v. Winston-Salem, NC. The W. F. Martin Camp 1521, represented by Attorney Ed Phillips, requests permission to pursue litigation and have it in place upon the ruling of the North Carolina Supreme Court to stop the removal of the Confederate Monument. The Camp is not asking for any funds. ANV Commander R. Kevin Stone put the request in the form of a motion. ANV Councilman Kenny Ramsey seconded the motion and the motion passed without objection.

AOT Commander Jimmy D. Hill made the appeal that on April 29, 2023 there needs to be a large gathering at Stone Mountain for the Confederate Memorial Service held at the mountain. The 2022 gathering was overshadowed by BLM. If the numbers are not increased, there is a fear of losing the Memorial on the side of the mountain. Commander-in-Chief R. S. Jason Boshers stated this will be a National SCV Event in hopes of boasting attendance. The event will be advertised in the Confederate Veteran Magazine.

Chief of Heritage Ops James Ronald (Ron) Kennedy said he is in the planning stage of developing a training program for camps to become agents of influence in their local communities.

Judge Advocate-in-Chief Scott D. Hall reported the Stephen D. Lee Institute will be February 24 – 26, 2023 in Tampa Florida.

Commander-in-Chief R. S. Jason Boshers announced the Christmas Open House at Elm Springs will be the first weekend in December.

A Motion to adjourn was made by Past Commander-in-Chief Paul C. Gramling, Jr., seconded by ATM Commander J. C. Hanna and passed without objection.

Closing prayer: Chaplain-in-Chief Gary Carlyle

Respectfully Submitted,



Dan A. McCaskill
Adjutant-in-Chief
Sons of Confederate Veterans

RE: Request for Permission to Enter a Lawsuit Against the City of Augusta

From: wdkennedy@reagan.com
To: scott@scottdhallesq.com
Cc: scvcic75@gmail.com, paul1863@cs.com, cicscv_76@yahoo.com, jasonboshers@charter.net, pvtmape@embarqmail.com, patriot1861@yahoo.com, csa6thflorida@att.net, exedir@scv.org, scvmechcav@hotmail.com, jc1120@bellsouth.net, aotcouncilman@alscv.org, danmccas@tecinfo.net, rebcarlyle@yahoo.com, jrk1861@gmail.com, chpcvis@hotmail.com

Thank you, Georgia and South Carolina, for your willingness to take on this fight. I support your effort but, as always, like to remind our members that, "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." We need to do much more in getting our message out to the general public.

Donnie Kennedy

-----Original Message-----

From: scott@scottdhallesq.com

Sent: Friday, November 18, 2022 5:41am

To: scvcic75@gmail.com, paul1863@cs.com, cicscv_76@yahoo.com, jasonboshers@charter.net, pvtmape@embarqmail.com, patriot1861@yahoo.com, csa6thflorida@att.net, exedir@scv.org, scvmechcav@hotmail.com, jc1120@bellsouth.net, aotcouncilman@alscv.org, danmccas@tecinfo.net, WDKennedy@Reagan.com, rebcarlyle@yahoo.com, jrk1861@gmail.com, chpcvis@hotmail.com

Subject: Request for Permission to Enter a Lawsuit Against the City of Augusta

Below is another litigation request made by Georgia and S. Carolina.

Specifically, GA and SC want this to be addressed at the next GEC Conference (Monday evening?).

Please read the below request and consider our options.

Scott D. Hall
374 Forks of the River Parkway
Sevierville, Tennessee 37862

(865) 428-9900

scott@scottdhallesq.com

www.scottdhallesq.com

-----Original Message-----

From: "Timothy Pilgrim" <timfpilgrim@yahoo.com>

Sent: Friday, November 18, 2022 12:05am

To: "Attorney Scott D. Hall" <scott@scottdhallesq.com>, "Jimmy Hill"
<aotcommander@alscv.org>

Cc: "scdivja@gmail.com" <scdivja@gmail.com>, "Division Commander"
<scdivcommander@gmail.com>, "Martin K. O'Toole" <gascvpr@gmail.com>, "Carl
Tommy Miller" <ctmillerjr1@comcast.net>, "Tony Pilgrim"
<rebelson1974@yahoo.com>, "Jason Boshers" <jasonboshers@charter.net>,
"Donnie Kennedy" <wdkennedy@reagan.com>, "Kevin Stone"
<scvmechcav@hotmail.com>, "Carl Jones" <csa6thflorida@att.net>,
"jrk1861@gmail.com" <jrk1861@gmail.com>

Subject: Request for Permission to Enter a Lawsuit Against the City of Augusta

JAIC Hall & AOT Commander Hill,

On Tuesday 11/15 the City of Augusta City Council voted 7 to 2 to the rename the Jefferson Davis Memorial Bridge to Freedom Bridge which spans across the Savannah River the border between GA and SC. They also voted to removed the bronze memorial plaques that are located at the entrance pedestals on both the GA and SC sides on the bridge along with the marble monument in the center of the bridge, see attached photos. This is in violation of Georgia State Code 50-3-1 and South Carolina Monument protection laws. Our legal team is currently drafting up an injunction to have a temporary restraining order in force to stop the Augusta City Council from taking any action on their resolution to rename the bridge and remove the plaques.

We had a conference call with SC Division Commander Perry Smith and SC JA Robert Merting and they both agreed that the removal of the memorial plaques and marble monument would be a violation of SC monument protection laws. They also both agreed that the SC Division would also be an plaintiff in the injunction along with the GA Division, Alexander Porter Camp 158, and a couple of Camp members (who are residents and taxpayers) as local stake holders.

With the recent Ga. Supreme Court Ruling on 10/25, which defines that stake holders have standing to sue these counties and multiplicities that violate the law, we feel that we

have strong grounds to sue the City of Augusta and will prevail.

We understand the GEC will be having a meeting on Monday 11/25 and **we request that a motion be made giving the GA & SC Divisions permission to proceed with this injunction and possible law suit. We are not currently asking for any funding assistance.**

Attached are some photos and a rough draft injunction for your review. I have copied the SC team along with our Division Spokesman and Litigation Coordinator Martin O'Toole if you should have any questions.

Thank you,

Timothy F. Pilgrim

Georgia Division Commander

www.gascv.org

Sons of Confederate Veterans

P.O. Box 1081, Macon, Ga. 31202

Phone: 404.456.3393

Email: timfpilgrim@yahoo.com

Spartanburg, S.C. Flag Pole Litigation

From: scott@scottdhallesq.com

To: scvcic75@gmail.com, paul1863@cs.com, cicscv_76@yahoo.com, jasonboshers@charter.net, pvtmape@embarqmail.com, patriot1861@yahoo.com, csa6thflorida@att.net, exedir@scv.org, scvmechcav@hotmail.com, jc1120@bellsouth.net, aotcouncilman@alscv.org, danmccas@tecinfo.net, wdkennedy@reagan.com, rebcarlyle@yahoo.com, jrk1861@gmail.com, chpcvis@hotmail.com

In response to the question and/or comments posed by Mr. D. Kennedy and Mr. R. Kennedy, following is the response from the attorney / SCV member of Camp 68 in Spartanburg.

SCOTT D. HALL, ESQ.
JUDGE ADVOCATE-IN-CHIEF
SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS
374 FORKS OF THE RIVER PARKWAY
SEVIERVILLE, TENNESSEE 37862
scott@scottdhallesq.com

-----Original Message-----

From: "Robert Merting" <robert@rkmerting.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 17, 2022 1:12pm
To: scott@scottdhallesq.com
Cc: "Perry Smith" <smithperryiii@gmail.com>
Subject: Re: Spartanburg, S.C. Flag Pole Litigation

Scott,

We are a vibrant camp that meets at an American Legion Post and participates in local events. We typically support various history events and have members in many other organizations. This boots on the ground action is the extent of our promotion.

We have issued a couple of PR statements that this flagpole is for the display of a wide variety of historical flags to spark interest in and encourage learning about our history. This will include Revolutionary history which is very local and relevant to the Spartanburg Community.

Our latest PR made note that there is a Spartanburg County ordinance that forbids putting a new flag on a non-conforming pole. (i.e. one over 30ft.) Until that law is changed, or we have a variance, we will only fly the two flags that were grandfathered in: the Confederate Naval Jack and the South Carolina Flag. We will be happy to carry through with our original intent of flying a large variety of flags if the County Council would agree.

The last statement is meant to boomerang animosity about the battle flag onto the county council. It gives them an option to cooperate. I believe the law in question is unconstitutional content regulation, but there is no need to fight that until we establish the pole can stay.

Hope this helps.

Sincerely,

Robert K. Merting

Attorney at Law

P.O. Box 26284

Greenville, SC 29616

1-843-830-5227

w: rkmerting.com e: robert@rkmerting.com

[Newsletter signup](#)

On Nov 17, 2022, at 1:02 PM, scott@scottdhallesq.com wrote:

Everyone who has made initial responses is strongly in favor of approving the litigation, but the GEC must have a conference / meeting and getting 16 people on a conference take sometime. Presently, the GEC conference will be Monday evening.

I'm virtually certain that you will receive approval and should be prepared to pull the trigger. You should receive confirmation from me Monday evening.

The Heritage Operations wing of the GEC commented and/or asked as set forth below.

1. According to recent opinion polls around 65 to 70% of Southerners support Confederate heritage. It is our responsibility to activate these "supporters" **before** local officials take anti-South action. It may prevent such ant-South acts or at least make winning much more likely. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.
2. We would like to know if the local camp or division has done any proactive work, i.e., radio ads, Dixie Defender, social media promotion and such in the past year in this area. If so, the community will know who we are and will be more likely to support our effort. If not done, they have only heard what the other side has to say about the SCV and Confederate heritage. "An ounce of prevention is worth a ton repair."

Can you help me with an Answer / Response to #1 and #2 above?

I know that marketing is not your assignment, but the Camp and/or Division Commanders might be able to help with some response. Plus, I assume you have something in mind with regard to "public relations." Letting the GEC know that PR is part of the process you have planned would be good. I know you want to avoid leaks concerning strategy, but giving the GEC some insight would help the GEC feel better and feel that they are performing their due diligence. Again, I expect a unanimous vote, but I'd also like to give the GEC some information to make them understand how Camp 68 and/or Division have and/or will address PR.

SCOTT D. HALL, ESQ.
JUDGE ADVOCATE-IN-CHIEF
SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS
374 FORKS OF THE RIVER PARKWAY
SEVIERVILLE, TENNESSEE 37862
scott@scottdhallesq.com