

Statement by organizations representing Loudoun County's business community

Monday, February 19, 2018

We, the undersigned representatives of organizations that serve Loudoun County's business community, are committed to ensuring our community secures and maintains a healthy and prosperous quality of life that serves the best interests of all our citizens.

Among the hallmarks of a healthy and prosperous quality of life are a strong and vital economic climate rooted in an atmosphere of unity and inclusion where every resident, visitor and worker – regardless of their race, religion, economic condition, gender or other aspect of their humanity – is treated with equality, dignity, and respect.

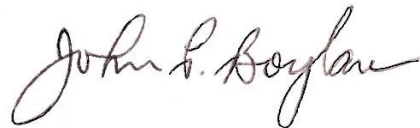
While we are proud of the progress Loudoun County has achieved to live up these ideals, these values have been challenged by the messages of hate and division espoused in fliers recently and impermissibly deposited on the streets, driveways and public spaces of our community. The organization these fliers purport to represent is well known for a century and half legacy of violence and terror.

On behalf of our organizations and the thousands of businesses and employers we represent, we declare in a unified voice that these messages do not represent our community's values.

The individuals that chose to spread these malignant messages did so to intimidate our neighbors and to otherwise degrade our community. While we respect everyone's Constitutionally-protected right to free speech, we are committed to ensure they fail in both these endeavors. We support the law enforcement officials and other authorities that are working to address this situation. The Loudoun County business community stands united in a steadfast commitment to equality and respect for all.



Christine Windle
Chief Executive Officer
Dulles Area Association of REALTORS®



John Boylan
President & CEO
Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce



Darius Saeidi
President
Historic Downtown Leesburg Association



Anthony J. Howard
President & CEO
Loudoun Chamber of Commerce



D. Todd Pearson
Chairman
Loudoun Economic Development Advisory
Commission



Mary Gayle Holden
President
Purcellville Business Association



Beth Erickson
President & CEO
Visit Loudoun