

NCAJ Statement on Confederate Monuments

In our 2017 Diversity Statement, the North Carolina Advocates for Justice stated, "NCAJ is resolute in its dedication to liberty and justice for all, and to a diverse and inclusive community that extends those rights to - and recognizes the humanity of - everyone." Part of that dedication to build a diverse and inclusive community means ensuring that our courthouses and their grounds in North Carolina are such places where all feel they will be treated with fairness and neutrality.

The courtyards of many courthouses throughout North Carolina feature Confederate monuments. These monuments have become a divisive symbol of prejudice, bias and inequality to many, including many NCAJ lawyers, their clients and potential jurors. NCAJ is committed to fair treatment and justice for all in our state's courthouses. As long as the Confederate monuments are featured in the courthouse courtyards this is not possible.

NCAJ supports the North Carolina Commission on Racial and Ethnic Disparities in the Criminal Justice System (NC CRED) campaign to remove Confederate monuments from the courthouse courtyards in North Carolina and supports NCAJ members in their efforts to remove courthouse iconography/symbols which impede our members' efforts to protect people, prevent injustice, and promote fairness.