

Date: June 15, 2020

To: Texarkana Texas City Officials
Attn: Mayor and City Council

From: Rev. Chaurcey D. Boyd, CEO

Dear Mayor Bob Bruggeman, and City Council:

It has been a long time since I last communicated with you. It was back in 2016-2017 when I wrote you concerning the Texarkana Area Christian Leadership Conference (TACLCL). The Conference Theme was All Lives Matter With Special Focus on Blue and Black/White Lives Matter National Themes.

The name of the initiative has been changed to Texarkana Area Community Leadership Coalition (TACLCL) for a variety of reasons.

I realize that law enforcement exists primarily to respond to negatives that occur in the community. It is important to both address police response and reduce negatives such as defects in morality and large-scale disproportionate disparity in education, poverty, unemployment, and registered businesses, all of which are themselves interrelated. I am in the process of collecting and reviewing and making publicly available local police procedures manuals and documenting many of these negative factors at my website Texarkana Insight at the link below. TACLCL initiatives to address police matters and these negatives are outlined at the TACLCL link given below.

With respect to the Confederate statue issue, such symbols do not bother me as I see them as symbols of defeat. Nevertheless, I know such symbols are bothersome to some people. So then I ask this question: Although the Confederate statues had much value and importance to most people who lived during that time, what value and importance do they really have to most people who live today?

Moving the Texarkana statue to a private museum is the best option I believe, accompanied by clear communication and explanation to the community as to why and timing.

Now for the Firefighter incident. I do believe the 90-day suspension without pay and disallowance from supervisory position for 5 years is excessive punishment. I saw no mention of race or peaceful protesters. Reverse racism rooted in stereotyping seems to have been present in response to his Facebook post. Sensitivity training and intensified recruitment of Black Firefighters is a more appropriate response in my view.

This is a summary of my letter to you. See the attached PDF for more details.

Thank you for your service to Texarkana USA and the nation. You are appreciated!

/s/

Rev. Chaurcey D. Boyd, CEO

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