



Duval County Democratic Black Caucus PO Box 28177 Jacksonville, Florida 32226

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Statement on Violence in Charlottesville, VA

The Duval County Democratic Black Caucus joins other Democratic organizations in denouncing the hateful and racist parade held by white supremacists in Charlottesville, VA as a cowardly and bigoted attack on every citizen across our country. The abhorrent acts of violence and vitriolic statements have no place in our country in 2017.

This was a direct assault on the values of equality, safety, and community that we hold dear and work so hard to maintain and advance. This is yet another sad reminder of the ever-present need for people of good will to stand strong, act together and speak loudly against hate and all acts of violence.

We call upon the President of the United States to strongly and clearly condemn white supremacist and neo-nazi groups that predictably sparked this violence which led to three deaths. Now, more than ever, the President and all of us must delegitimize those xenophobic groups who spread racist messages. Additionally, we must speak out against those in our government who enable a culture of permission by way of their own example, silence or inaction. We must do so with calm, common sense and peaceful actions.

We extend our deepest and most sincere sympathies to the families and friends who tragically lost their loved ones. In the weeks and months ahead, we wish them strength, comfort, and healing. Our hearts are with you. We shall not let hate prevail.