

August 21, 2017

## **STATEMENT BY FORMER STATE ATTORNEYS GENERAL**

THERE ARE TIMES IN THE LIFE OF A NATION, OR A PRESIDENT, OR A STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL WHEN ONE IS CALLED UPON TO RESPOND DIRECTLY TO THE VOICE OF HATE.

AS FORMER STATE ATTORNEYS GENERAL- WE TAKE THE LIBERTY OF REMINDING AMERICANS-AS WE REMIND OURSELVES- THAT EVENTS CAN CALL OUT THE WORST IN US -- AND THE BEST.

IN 1971 THE TWENTY-NINE YEAR OLD ATTORNEY GENERAL OF ALABAMA BEGAN HIS QUEST TO BRING TO JUSTICE THE PERPETRATORS OF THE BIRMINGHAM CHURCH BOMBING WHICH KILLED FOUR LITTLE GIRLS. IT WAS A CRIME ROOTED IN HATE AND HIS DETERMINATION TO PROSECUTE THE CASE GAVE RISE TO VOICES OF LEADERS OF HATE. HE FACED POLITICAL FUROR, LACK OF COOPERATION FROM FEDERAL AND STATE GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND CONSTANT THREATS OF PHYSICAL VIOLENCE AND DEATH. BUT HE PERSISTED. IT TOOK YEARS BUT HE OBTAINED A CONVICTION.

IN 1976 WHEN THE GRAND DRAGON OF THE KU KLUX KLAN WROTE A THREATENING LETTER AND DEMANDED THAT ALABAMA ATTORNEY GENERAL BILL BAXLEY RESPOND DIRECTLY TO HIS LETTER, HE DID.

WE COMMEND HIS RESPONSE (SEE LINK ABOVE) TO THE ATTENTION OF ALL WHO SEEK TO EQUIVOCATE IN TIMES OF MORAL CRISIS.

## **FORMER ATTORNEYS GENERAL**

Robert Abrams, New York  
Ronald Amemiya, Hawaii  
Jeff Amestoy, Vermont  
Bruce Babbitt, Arizona  
Thurbert Baker, Georgia  
Paul Bardacke, New Mexico  
Steve Beshear, Kentucky  
Bruce Botelho, Alaska  
Margery Bronster, Hawaii  
Charlie Brown, West Virginia  
Richard Bryan, Nevada  
Charles Burson, Tennessee

Bonnie Campbell, Iowa  
Steve Clark, Arkansas  
Walter Cohen, Pennsylvania  
Robert Cooper, Tennessee  
J. Joseph Curran, Jr., Maryland  
Fred Cowan, Kentucky  
Frankie Sue Del Papa, Nevada  
Jerry Diamond, Vermont  
Richard Doran, Florida  
John Easton, Vermont  
Rufus Edmisten, North Carolina  
Drew Edmondson, Oklahoma  
Tyrone Fahner, Illinois  
Lee Fisher, Ohio  
Karen Freeman - Wilson, Indiana  
Terry Goddard, Arizona  
Chris Gorman, Kentucky  
Slade Gorton, Washington  
Jennifer Granholm, Michigan  
Scott Harshbarger, Massachusetts  
Peter Harvey, New Jersey  
Hubert H . Humphrey III, Minnesota  
Drew Ketterer, Maine  
Oliver Koppell, New York  
Peg Lautenschlager, Wisconsin  
Joseph Lieberman, Connecticut  
Michael Lilly, Hawaii  
Alicia Limtiaco, Guam  
Bill Lockyer, California  
David Louie, Hawaii  
Robert Marks, Hawaii  
Brian McKay, Nevada  
Jeff Modisett, Indiana  
Betty Montgomery, Ohio  
Mike Moore. Mississippi  
Jim Petro, Ohio  
Jeffrey Pine, Rhode Island  
Warren Price III, Hawaii  
Hector Richard, Puerto Rico

Clarine Nardi Riddle, Connecticut  
Dennis Roberts, Rhode Island  
Stephen Rosenthal, Virginia  
Stephen Sachs, Maryland  
James Shannon, Massachusetts  
Mark Shurtleff, Utah  
William Sorrell, Vermont  
Rbert Spagnoletti, District of Columbia  
Robert Stephan, Kansas  
Mary Sue Terry, Virginia  
James Tierney, Maine  
Anthony F. Troy, Virginia  
Jim Guy Tucker, Arkansas  
Paul Van Dam, Utah  
Bob Wefald, North Dakota  
Grant Woods, Arizona