



2524 Hawkesbury Court
Henrico, VA 23233-2426

28 June 2015

Governor Nikki Haley
1205 Pendleton Street
Columbia, SC 29201-3756

Dear Governor Haley:

All honorable people are justifiably upset and saddened by the horrible murders which recently took place in Charleston.

To imply that the murderer's picture with the Confederate battle flag makes the flag unfit to be used in other situations is akin to the Cold War assertion that the United States and the Soviet Union were morally equivalent.

Confining the battle flag to museums and private property would be intolerant and unworthy. The enclosed picture is from Elmira, NY, site of an awful Union prison camp in which many Confederate soldiers died, including the great grandfather of my best friend. Before his untimely death in 2003 my friend visited his ancestor's grave site and was most appreciative of the Confederate flag flying there.

On the Sunday before Memorial Day my wife and I visited Oakwood Cemetery, which is owned by the City of Richmond. It was moving to see Confederate flags by grave stones in the Confederate section, as shown in the enclosed photo. The first husband of my wife's great grandmother is buried in that section. We have three Confederate ancestors buried in private plots in Oakwood. From time to time we have put Confederate flags on their graves.

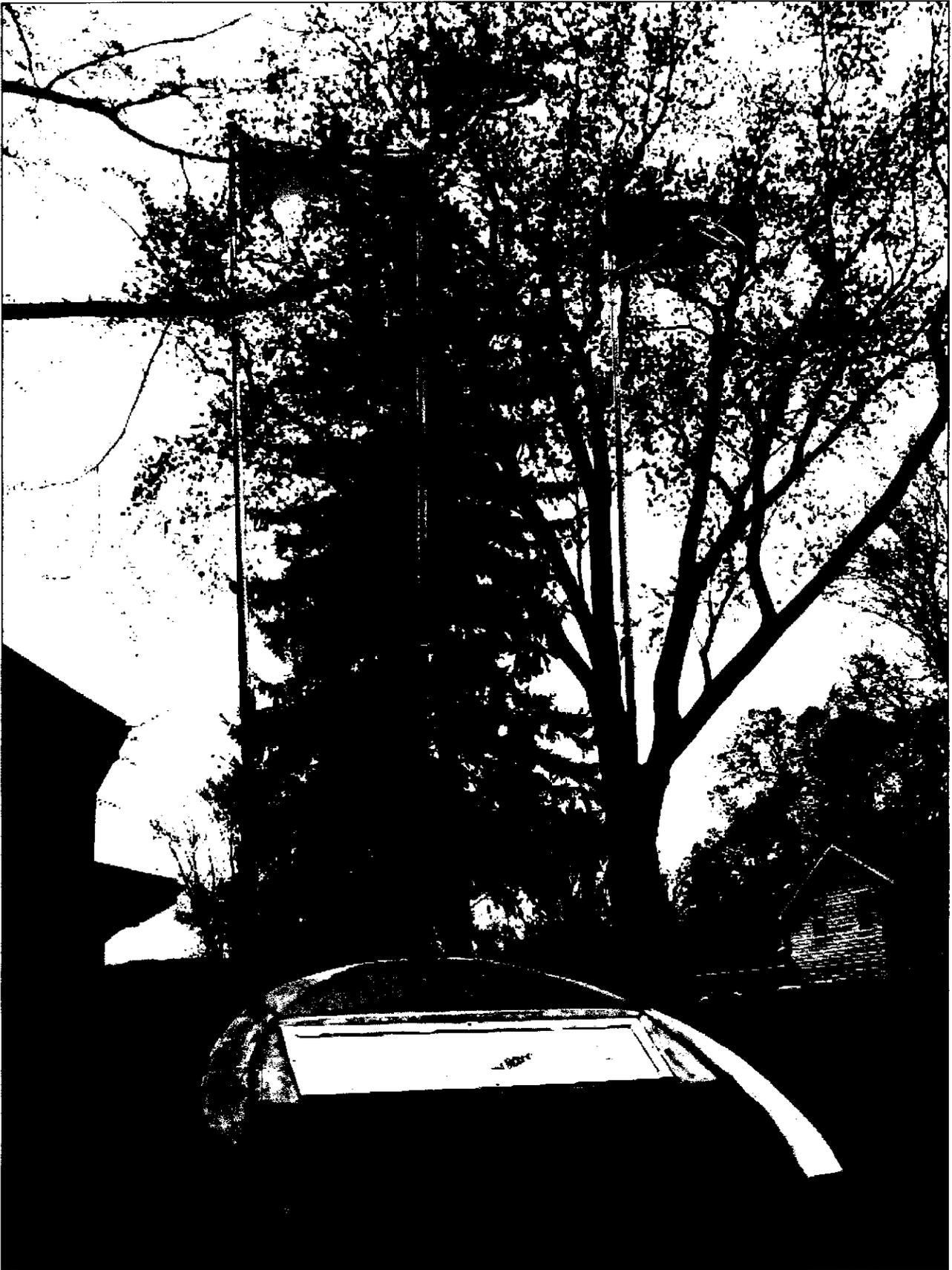
Your proposals regarding the flag would deny us the freedom to honor appropriately our Confederate ancestors, who answered the call of their nation, just as my father did in World War One, my two brothers did in World War Two, and I did near the end of the Korean War.

Sincerely,

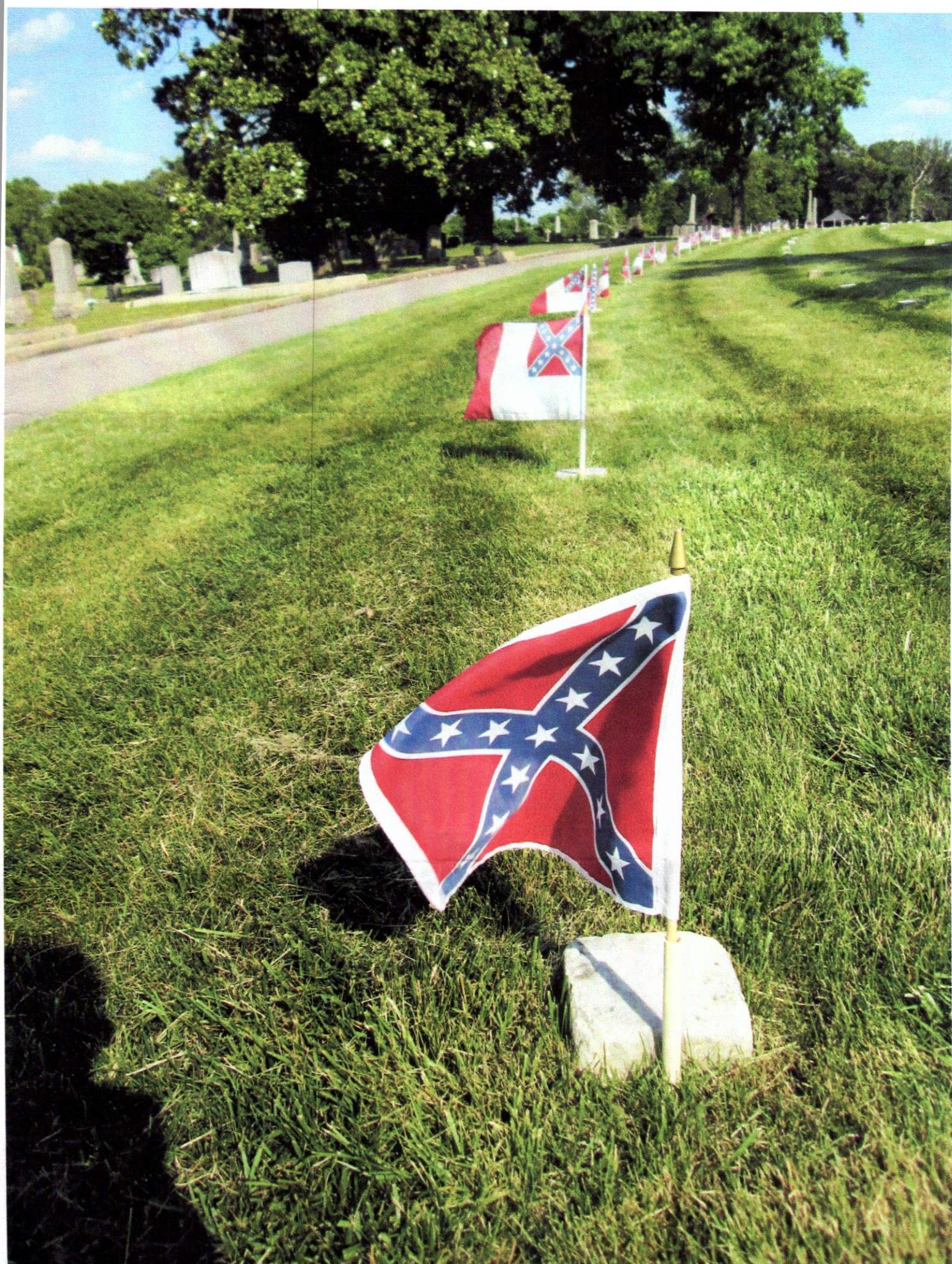
A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Walter Dunn Tucker".

Walter Dunn Tucker
Commander
United States Naval Reserve Retired

cc: Mr. Todd Culbertson, Richmond Times-Dispatch



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OAKWOOD CEMETERY RICHMOND, VA 24 MAY 2015