

NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Statement on behalf of Intervenors and Move the Mindset:

“The agreement to remove the Alfred Mouton statue is a historic step forward for the City of Lafayette.

In 1922, during the Jim Crow era of racial segregation and violence, the Daughters of the Confederacy donated a statue of Alfred Mouton, a slaveowner and Confederate general, to the City of Lafayette. For ninety-nine years, this Confederate statue has stood at the gateway of Lafayette, a symbol of one of the ugliest and most shameful eras in American history.

During these ninety-nine years, the leadership of the City of Lafayette enabled the statue to stand, brokering backroom deals to ensure that it would remain in its prominent position. Even as a groundswell of community members began to demand the statue’s removal, our leaders refused to take action, claiming that the law prevented the City from controlling its own property.

The Intervenors in this legal action, led by Fred Prejean, have always sought the removal of the statue by peaceful means, and have long demanded justice in the courts and before the Council. We were pleased last year when the City and the Council agreed to take up our cause and took the action necessary to do the right thing.

We celebrate today for all of Acadiana.”