

PHILLIP JONES MAYOR



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Date: July 14, 2026

Mr. Mark Shockley
Virginia Veterans Memorials, Inc.

Dear Mr. Shockley,

I am pleased to offer my strong support for the efforts of Virginia Veterans Memorials, Inc. to develop the Virginia Iraq Veterans Memorial in Huntington Park, adjacent to the Virginia Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Newport News.

The mission of Virginia Veterans Memorials, Inc. to recognize and preserve the service, sacrifice, and legacy of Virginia's veterans is both meaningful and enduring. By creating public memorials that honor those who have served our nation, your organization ensures that future generations will understand the courage, commitment, and selflessness of the men and women who answered the call to serve.

The proposed Virginia Iraq Veterans Memorial will provide a lasting place of reflection, remembrance, and education for families, veterans, and visitors from across the Commonwealth. Its location in Huntington Park will further strengthen Newport News' role as a place where the sacrifices of our nation's service members are honored with dignity and respect.

As Mayor of Newport News, I am proud to support this important initiative and commend Virginia Veterans Memorials, Inc., for its leadership and dedication to preserving the stories of those who served. I look forward to seeing this vision become a reality and appreciate the work you and your team are doing to ensure these veterans receive the recognition they have earned.

Thank you for your commitment to honoring Virginia's military heroes.

Semper Fidelis,

Phillip Jones