



**Judicial
Watch**[®]
*Because no one
is above the law!*

VIA EMAIL (eom@dc.gov and oag@dc.gov)

June 10, 2020

Muriel Bowser
Mayor
The District of Columbia
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20004

Karl A. Racine
Attorney General for the District of Columbia
441 4th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001

Re: Request to Paint Message on Independence Avenue SW

Dear Mayor Bowser and Attorney General Racine:

We note with interest Mayor Bowser's recent decision approving the painting of "Black Lives Matter" on 16th Street NW and the approval of and/or acquiescence in the painting of "Defund the Police" alongside the first message. Both messages are expressive activity.

Judicial Watch, Inc. is a Washington, DC-based, non-profit organization headquartered in Southwest DC. For more than twenty-five years, Judicial Watch, Inc. has promoted transparency, accountability and integrity in government and fidelity to the rule of law. Our motto is "Because No One Is Above the Law!" – a message that is particularly relevant today because it applies equally to law enforcement and public official as well as to protesters, looters, and rioters.

Because DC streets surfaces are now being used as public fora for expressive activity, we would like to have our motto painted on a street, preferably Independence Avenue SW, between 2nd and 4th Streets SW, which is near our offices. The lettering would be identical in size and color to the lettering used to paint "Black Lives Matter" on 16th Street NW. Judicial Watch, Inc. would pay the cost of the painting, but we would likely need the assistance of the DC Government to aid in traffic diversion and parking restrictions while the painting is completed. Of course, the painting could be completed when traffic is typically light, as was done with the "Black Lives Matter" message.

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As the timeliness of our message is important, please respond within 3 working days. If the Independence Avenue location is not possible, we are open to considering alternative locations.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "T. Fitton".

Thomas J. Fitton
President, Judicial Watch, Inc.