



**The Maryland Society  
Sons of the American Revolution**

*25 August 2021*



**Decision Paper: Ratification of Expulsion**

On 21 July 2021 the Maryland Society Executive Committee after reviewing the State Society Committee of Inquiry recommendation voted unanimously to expel Michael James Kelley, Jr from the body of the Maryland Society, Sons of the American Revolution with immediate effect.

**Discussion:**

In accordance with our Bylaws, dated 16 June 2018, Article I Membership, Fees, and Dues, Section 7 this expulsion will be complete when ratified by the Board of Officers and Managers of the our Society.

See Page 2 for State Society announcement

**Recommendation:**

Ratify the Expulsion of Michael James Kelley, Jr. from the Maryland Society, Sons of the American Revolution and the subsequent recommendation for permanent expulsion from the National Society, Sons of the American Revolution.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark D. Deeds  
President  
Maryland Society  
Sons of the American Revolution



## The Maryland Society Sons of the American Revolution

*25 August 2021*



## The Maryland Society Sons of the American Revolution

*19 July 2021*



### **From the President of the Maryland Society, Sons of the American Revolution**

Today, the Maryland Society took the extraordinary action of expelling Compatriot Michael James Kelley, Jr. We found it necessary because of the decisions and resulting actions of Mr. Kelley. Mr. Kelley was recently expelled from the John Paul Jones Chapter for his prejudicial conduct. The Chapter also referred Mr. Kelley to the Maryland State's Attorney General Office and he was subsequently charged for the crimes of theft and embezzlement.

At the State Society, a duly constituted Committee of Inquiry reviewed the relevant information including prior similar criminal behavior in South Carolina, that resulted in that State Society requesting and receiving his resignation, and unanimously resolved to recommend Mr. Kelley's expulsion from the State Society. The Committee also advocated the State Society recommend Mr. Kelley's expulsion from the National Society. Today your State Society Executive Committee met, reviewed the Committee's recommendation and unanimously approved both recommendations. The correspondence necessary to effect the recommendations are being processed.

In our Society's history, we have never faced this type of event. We can not condone or tolerate actions such as Mr. Kelley's in our Society. Mr. Kelley was a stalwart volunteer and worked hard for this society but his actions betrayed our core tenets of trust, honor, honesty, and integrity that we expect from all of our fellow Compatriots. It was not an easy task for any of the Compatriots that were involved in this process. As difficult as it was, it was necessary to retain the integrity of our Society. We put trust in our Compatriots and it was unfortunate that Mr. Kelley chose to violate that trust.

This event also demonstrates that we have some material weaknesses in our governance and oversight processes which could impact other Chapters and the State Society. We will be discussing those weaknesses and how to best fix them as we move through this year. I look forward to working with you to find and implement repeatable processes to preclude this type of event from occurring in the future.

**Mark D. Deeds**  
President  
Maryland Society  
Sons of the American Revolution