

NAACP®

Arlington Texas Branch

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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March 4, 2026

Arlington NAACP Concern Over “One Ranger, One Riot” Statue at Globe Life Field

The Arlington NAACP is expressing deep disappointment regarding the continued display of the “One Ranger, One Riot” statue inside Globe Life Field, home of the Texas Rangers.

Although the statue itself does not list a specific individual by name, it is widely known that the sculpture was modeled after Jay Banks—a fact publicly acknowledged by the sculptor who created the statue. Banks’ record during the Civil Rights era includes actions that many in our community view as harmful to the progress of civil rights and racial equity.

Prior to the installation of the statue, the Arlington NAACP reached out to representatives of the Texas Rangers organization to express our concerns about honoring a historical figure connected to events that undermined civil rights and educational progress in our region. Despite those concerns being raised, the organization ultimately chose to move forward with the statue’s installation.

For the Arlington NAACP, the concern is not merely historical—it is deeply connected to the present. The stadium sits within the broader Arlington–Mansfield community, and the legacy of the individual who inspired the statue is closely tied to events that adversely impacted the progress of public education and civil rights in what is now served by Mansfield Independent School District.

This issue has been particularly difficult for many residents given the timing of the statue’s installation and the broader context of community reflection during Black History Month. For many families across Arlington and Mansfield, the moment served as a reminder that while our community continues to make progress, the symbols we elevate still matter deeply.

This statement is not a criticism of law enforcement. The NAACP proudly supports the many men and women in law enforcement who serve our communities with professionalism and integrity every day. Our concern is about honoring a historical figure whose actions directly undermined the advancement of civil rights and public education in the very community that surrounds the ballpark.

During the era in which Banks operated, his actions were associated with resistance to the desegregation of schools in Mansfield—events that remain a painful chapter in the history of the community that today proudly supports Mansfield ISD students and families.

Globe Life Field sits just minutes from the schools, neighborhoods, and families that make up Mansfield ISD. To many residents, honoring a figure connected to efforts that hindered educational progress sends the wrong message to the very students we are working to uplift.

NAACP LEADERS

Jason L. Thomas, President | **Duane Braxton, 1st Vice President** | **Dr. Perry Crenshaw, 2nd Vice President**
Elfreda Jones, Secretary | **Jill McGrew, Treasurer** | **Lisa Staples-Wherry, Member-at-Large**
Damon Gardner, Political Action Chair

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The Arlington NAACP believes that public monuments in major entertainment venues should reflect values that bring communities together and recognize the full dignity of all residents.

The organization is calling on the Texas Rangers organization and ballpark leadership to engage in constructive dialogue with community stakeholders regarding how history is represented.

Arlington is one of the most diverse and dynamic communities in Texas. Our public symbols should reflect the values of fairness, opportunity, and inclusion that we want the next generation to inherit.

The Arlington NAACP welcomes meaningful conversations with team leadership, educators, community leaders, and residents about how Arlington's public spaces can better represent the values and progress of the communities they serve.

Contact Information

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