

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0104

May 10, 2016

Director Jon Jarvis  
National Park Service Director  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street NW  
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Director Jarvis:

I write to express my support for ongoing efforts to commemorate the heroic actions of the 1961 Freedom Riders in Anniston and Calhoun County, Alabama. In particular, I applaud your consideration to preserve and add Freedom Rider sites to the National Park System, and if approved, I am hopeful that the National Park Service (Service) will be able to prioritize this project during the 55th anniversary of Freedom Rides this year.

As you are aware, to commemorate the Freedom Rides, local community partners are working together to restore the former Greyhound bus station in downtown Anniston and to preserve the site of the bus burning along Route 202, just outside of the city. I understand that the Service is conducting a Reconnaissance Survey to examine whether the Freedom Riders sites meet criteria for inclusion within the National Park System. I encourage the Service to complete the Reconnaissance Survey as expeditiously as possible, and I look forward to reviewing the survey's results.

The addition of Freedom Rider sites to the National Park System would serve as a reminder of the courage displayed throughout the drive for civil rights in America. This would also serve as another way to commemorate key events in Alabama as the historic movement for freedom and justice went forward. Similar sites include the Tuskegee Airmen National Historic Sites, the Tuskegee Institute, and the Selma to Montgomery National Historic Trail. I join the many local leaders and institutions which support this effort, and I request the Service to consider the Freedom Riders place within the National Park System in a full, fair, and prompt manner.

Thank you for your attention to this request.

Very truly yours,



Jeff Sessions  
United States Senator

JS:kc

BIRMINGHAM  
341 VANCE FEDERAL BUILDING  
1800 FIFTH AVENUE NORTH  
BIRMINGHAM, AL 35203-2171  
(205) 731-1500

HUNTSVILLE  
REGIONS CENTER, SUITE 802  
200 CLINTON AVENUE, N.W.  
HUNTSVILLE, AL 35801-4932  
(256) 533-0979

MOBILE  
BB&T CENTRE, SUITE 2300A  
41 WEST I-65 SERVICE ROAD NORTH  
MOBILE, AL 36608-1291  
(251) 414-3083

MONTGOMERY  
FRANK M. JOHNSON, JR.  
FEDERAL COURTHOUSE ANNEX  
ONE CHURCH STREET, SUITE 500B  
MONTGOMERY, AL 36104  
(334) 230-0698

WIREGRASS  
UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE, SUITE 302  
100 WEST TROY STREET  
DOTHAN, AL 36303  
(334) 792-4924