## **TOWN OF LITTLETON**

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## A LETTER FOR UNITY

After the events over the last week, I feel it is necessary to write to you – the community. We are all called by God to treat others with respect, especially when we do not agree with them. It is not as a statement of their character to do this, but a statement of your character. 1 Corinthians 15:33 Do not be deceived: "Bad company corrupts good morals." When someone goes down into the ditch, do not follow them. Stay above, stand tall on level ground, so that we may link arms and walk forward together. Bullying, disrespect, slanderous comments, defamation and inciting public unrest will not solve any problem; only amplify it. When you see someone begin to go against God's call for grace, loving one another, pray for them. Let's lift them up out of that ditch so that we may be united in progressing towards a better, stronger community.

Offense is a choice that is rooted in conviction. When you become offended to berate another, that is your choice to feel that way. Making that choice has a root in conviction. Pride is typically the root of that conviction. When you can't release your pride and conduct yourself civilly, it is time to stop and reflect on how to rise above that offense. It is in times of great difficulty, our true inner struggles come to light. In that light, the brokenness of our lives can be fully seen. At that point we can then lay out our pieces to God so that he may remove the weight that crushed us, and rebuild us again in his image. Do not turn your back on someone when they have revealed themselves in this moment, but rather embrace them. Equip them with the tools they need to rebuild, so that they may in return help others when God calls them to action. So now I call on you for unity in this time of rebuilding, and leave you with a final word: "Hate begets hate; violence begets violence; toughness begets a greater toughness. We must meet the forces of hate with the power of love." Dr. Martin Luther King Jr

Mayor K. Owen Scott Town of Littleton

The Town of Littleton is an equal opportunity provider, and employer.