

STATEMENT OF LTCOL OLIVER NORTH TO THE NRA BOARD
27 APRIL 2019

PLEASE KNOW, I HOPED TO BE WITH YOU TODAY AS NRA PRESIDENT, ENDORSED FOR RE-ELECTION. I'M NOW INFORMED THAT WILL NOT HAPPEN. I AM THEREFORE GRATEFUL MY DEAR FRIEND, NRA 1ST VICE PRESIDENT RICHARD CHILDRESS HAS AGREED TO READ THIS TO YOU.

IN THE SPRING OF 2018, NRA EVP-CEO WAYNE LAPIERRE URGED ME TO RETIRE FROM MY JOB AT FOX NEWS; BECOME NRA PRESIDENT; AND ACCEPT A SALARIED POSITION WITH ACKERMAN MCQUEEN. I AGREED TO DO SO IN ORDER TO HELP BUILD NRA MEMBERS AND RESOURCES.

AFTER ASSUMING OFFICE AS NRA PRESIDENT IN SEPTEMBER 2018, I WAS CONFRONTED BY NRA BOARD MEMBERS AND DONORS WHO EXPRESSED CONCERNS ABOUT THE AMOUNT OF MONEY THE NRA IS PAYING TO THE BREWER LAW FIRM.

MANY TIMES I, AND OTHERS, TRIED TO INITIATE AN OUTSIDE INDEPENDENT AUDIT OF THESE MATTERS. WE WERE REBUFFED REPEATEDLY.

THEN, WITHOUT NOTICE TO THE BOARD, NRA FILED A LAWSUIT AGAINST ACKERMAN MCQUEEN. IN ADDITION, A SERIES OF ARTICLES IN *THE NEW YORKER*, *THE WALL STREET JOURNAL*, AND *THE NEW YORK TIMES* MADE ALLEGATIONS OF FINANCIAL MISMANAGEMENT BY SENIOR NRA OFFICIALS. IF TRUE, THE NRA'S NONPROFIT STATUS IS THREATENED.

TO DEAL WITH THIS SITUATION, I ESTABLISHED A SPECIAL NRA "CRISIS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE." IN A MEMO TO THE NRA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE DATED APRIL 25, I EXPLAINED THE REASONS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THIS COMMITTEE.

THERE IS A CLEAR CRISIS. IT NEEDS TO BE DEALT WITH IMMEDIATELY AND RESPONSIBLY, SO THE NRA CAN CONTINUE TO FOCUS ON PROTECTING THE 2ND AMENDMENT.

I HAVE BEEN ON THE NRA BOARD FOR MORE THAN 2 DECADES. IT WAS A GREAT PRIVILEGE TO SERVE AS YOUR PRESIDENT THIS PAST YEAR – AN HONOR SECOND ONLY TO SERVING OUR COUNTRY AS A U.S. MARINE IN COMBAT.

SHOULD YOU EVER NEED ME IN THE FUTURE, JUST CALL. I WILL COME.

SEMPER FIDELIS, OLIVER NORTH

**"SEMPER FIDELIS" IS MORE THAN A SLOGAN FOR U.S. MARINES
"ALWAYS FAITHFUL" IS A WAY OF LIFE**