

**Conservation Federation of Missouri
2016 Resolution**

Committee: Natural History, Parks & Wildlands

#

Author: Friends of Rock Bridge Memorial State Park Executive Board

Title

WHEREAS, the mission of the Missouri State Park Rangers is to provide professional law enforcement service and protection to all park visitors, their property and the cultural and natural resources of Missouri's state parks and historic sites. We want our visitors to have the opportunity to understand, appreciate and enjoy Missouri's cultural and natural heritage in a safe, secure environment.

AND WHEREAS, the Missouri State Park Rangers' Value statement is, Missouri State Park Rangers value human life and the pursuit of happiness, as guaranteed by the United States Constitution. We believe that integrity is the basis for community trust. We strive for personal and professional excellence. We are accountable to all Missourians; visitors to state parks and historic sites, and to each other. We are a dedicated, caring, capable group of professionals who perform important and satisfying work for the people visiting state parks and historic sites.

AND WHEREAS, the most visible activity of the Missouri State Park Rangers in and around Rock Bridge Memorial State Park is speed traps and vehicle license plate checks in the Parking Lot.

AND WHEREAS, both Park visitors and DNR staff have negatively commented on their perceived use of the rangers as traffic police and not as rangers meeting their mission and value statement.

AND WHEREAS, both Park visitors and DNR staff have expressed a need for more "on the ground" presence of Missouri State Park Rangers to enforce the rules and regulations in the Park.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Conservation Federation of Missouri assembled at the Capitol Plaza Hotel, Jefferson City, MO, this 20th day of March, 2016 that the Missouri State Parks Management redirect the activities of the Park Rangers from Traffic Police to on the ground, in the Park, on the trail Rangers.