



DEPARTMENT OF  
GENERAL SERVICES

Serving Government. Serving Virginians.



## *News Release*

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Date: May 31, 2020

### **Department of General Services**

Contact: Dena Potter

Office: (804) 786-0282

Cell: (804) 356-5508

Email: [Dena.Potter@dgs.virginia.gov](mailto:Dena.Potter@dgs.virginia.gov)

### **Division of Capitol Police**

Contact: Joe Macenka

Office: (804) 786-2522

Cell: (804) 382-7447

Email: [JMacenka@dcp.virginia.gov](mailto:JMacenka@dcp.virginia.gov)

## **Capitol Square closed until further notice**

*~ DGS, Capitol Police will monitor activity to determine reopening ~*

**RICHMOND, Va.** – The Department of General Services, working in collaboration with the Division of Capitol Police, will keep Capitol Square closed to the public until further notice.

DGS first closed Capitol Square May 30 following civil unrest on May 29 that resulted in damage to multiple surrounding buildings and structures. Protests continued on May 30, which resulted in injury to two Capitol Police officers, as well as additional vandalism to state property.

“We have a responsibility as stewards of the historic Capitol Square grounds to protect them from depredations and injury,” said **Joe Damico, DGS Director**. “Until we can be assured that these buildings and grounds, as well as the people who visit or work among them, can be secure from outside threats, it is prudent to keep Capitol Square closed to the public.”

**Col. Anthony S. Pike, chief of the Capitol Police**, added: "Overall public safety and the safety of Capitol Square continue to be our focus. We will continue to assess progress toward those goals and respond accordingly."

Capitol Square generally is closed from 11 p.m. until 6 a.m. daily. DGS and Capitol Police will monitor activity near Capitol Square to determine when it is appropriate to reopen to the public.

For more information, visit [dgs.virginia.gov](https://dgs.virginia.gov) and [dcp.virginia.gov](https://dcp.virginia.gov).

###