

**January 15, 2021**



**Honorable Senator James Lankford  
United States Senate**

**Re: Response to your January 14, 2021, letter to North  
Tulsa friends**

**Dear Senator Lankford:**

**The members of the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre Centennial Commission acknowledge receipt of your letter of January 14, 2021. We appreciate your apology and continue to discuss the impact of recent actions on our mission and goals. We are also grateful for the hour-long dialogue between you and Commission members held on Saturday, January 9. Commission members listened to you. You listened to Commission members.**

**We all agree that the Centennial Commission's primary focus must be furthering its mission: educating people about the massacre, remembering victims and survivors, and creating a receptive environment for entrepreneurship and tourism in North Tulsa.**

**While we do not have a specific update for you at this time, the key takeaway is that our mission of truth-telling and racial reconciliation is our true north. The Commission will meet again on Saturday, January 23, after which we hope to have a formal response.**

**Sen. Kevin Matthews  
Chair & Founder**

**Phil Armstrong  
Project Director**

**cc: Staff, Senator James Lankford**