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Signature Required

Commissioner Adam Silver
National Basketball Association
645 - 5th Avenue
New York, NY 10022
212-407-8000

RE: Donald Sterling

Dear Commissioner Silver,

I represent Ebony Jones, daughter and executor of the estate of Kandynce Jones. Kandynce Jones, an African American woman, was one of nineteen plaintiffs who brought a race discrimination suit against Mr. Sterling for his mistreatment of African-American and Hispanic tenants at apartment buildings he owned in Los Angeles. At the time Mr. Sterling bought the building, Ms. Jones was a tenant of the building. She was 66 years old, blind, paralyzed on her right side, and suffering from sickle cell anemia and high blood pressure. As a result of her disabilities, Ms. Jones was confined almost entirely to her apartment. Despite her confinement, Ms. Jones loved her apartment, considered it her home and was very happy.

As has been reported by ESPN and others, upon acquiring the building in which Ms. Jones lived, Mr. Sterling began a campaign to force her and other African-Americans out of their apartments. The details of that campaign are sickening, and include deliberately leaving Ms. Jones without a working stove, sink, refrigerator or toilet in a flood ravaged, fungus ridden apartment. Further details regarding Mr. Sterling's conduct are set forth in the attached statement of Ms. Jones's daughter, and my client, Ebony Jones.

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Kandynce Jones died while courageously fighting back against Mr. Sterling's racist efforts to evict her and other persons of color from their apartments. Ebony continued that battle in her mother's stead for two additional years after Ms. Jones's death, until the case ultimately resolved. While Mr. Sterling was able to avoid the swift justice likely to be imposed by a jury of outraged citizens, it is long overdue for him to be accountable for the harm that he has inflicted on my client's late mother and others.

I commend my client for the courage that she has shown in stepping forward to tell her mother's story.

It is very difficult for a young woman to stand up for what is right when the perpetrator is one of the wealthiest and most powerful men in the city. However, she has done so because she felt that it was important for others to learn from her mother's struggle against racism and for Mr. Sterling to learn that his racist actions can result in serious consequences to himself.


We think that the time is long overdue for him to be held fully accountable for his misconduct and we are glad that the NBA can help to do so by imposing appropriate penalties on Mr. Sterling, including stripping him of Clippers franchise ownership rights.

Ms. Jones and I fully support your sanctions of Clippers owner Donald Sterling in wake of his racist comments. As the NBA weighs further action, including forcing Mr. Sterling's sale of the Clippers, we believe that the NBA should consider his callous racist conduct in the case of Kandynce Jones.

My client, Ebony Jones, and I would be happy to meet with you to discuss her mother's case, and to share with you the impact of Mr. Sterling's racism on her and other members of our community. Please contact me if you would like to arrange a meeting with Ms. Jones. We look forward to hearing from you.

Very truly yours,

ALLRED, MAROKO & GOLDBERG



GLORIA ALLRED

GA:pd
w/Enclosure