



The East Central Province
Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc
"Training for Leadership Since 1911"

August 26, 2017

Mr. Brian Proud
Director of Hospitality
Pro Football Hall of Fame
2121 George Halas Drive NW
Canton, Ohio 44708

Dear Sir,

As you are probably aware, the East Central Province of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. has made the determination to terminate its contractual agreement to host our inaugural Founders Day Celebration at the Pro Football Hall of Fame in January 2018. We do so, fully understanding that there may be predetermined penalties that we may be forced to incur due to this decision.

The choice to cease our agreement was done so in response to the National Football League's (NFL) ownerships unspoken pronouncement to 'Blackball' one of our own from having a chance to continue executing his talents in the NFL. Our Brother, Colin Kaepernick, a Spring 2010 initiate of the University of Nevada, Reno Chapter, the Xi Phi of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, appears to have been deliberately locked out of all thirty-two (32) teams training camps this summer. Thus, effectively putting his ability to compete for a roster spot and support his family to an end. This being done while so many teams in the league are in desperate need to find a suitable, capable quarterback, particularly one with Super Bowl experience!

Mr. Proud, to our knowledge, this decision to exclude Mr. Kaepernick was not done because of any violation of any laws or because of any disconcerting behavior in his personal life (unlike a select few who currently occupy roster spots in the league). Yet, it is clear that this conclusion by the NFL owners was done so, because Brother Kaepernick exercised his right as an American citizen and decided to kneel during the singing of our National Anthem before his games last season, as his way to bring attention to some of the imperfections that still exist in our culture today.

In light of the recent events in Charlottesville, Virginia the time has come that those in significant positions, (to which the NFL is certainly among), stand up and choose which side of this most tenuous dispute they want to be on. Being neutral and refusing to speak up is no longer a viable option. Too many gains have been made in our society for this matter to go on unspoken. Couple this with the fact that as of 2016, of all the players that comprise NFL team's rosters, 70% of those players are African-American. Again, the NFL needs to decide which side of the divide you choose to stand?

Please know that while Brother Kaepernick may be forced to end his playing career because of these unfair tactics, his actions are creating something much larger than even he could have imagined. Our Brother did not just create a “moment in time”, he created a “movement”, that if you have not noticed is being emulated by others who also bear NFL jerseys.

We apologize for any inconvenience that our cancellation may have caused and even sorrow somewhat at the lost opportunity for us to partner with the Pro Football Hall of Fame. But in closing I share that...We, here in the mighty East Central Province of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. “Kneel with Brother Kaepernick”!

Respectfully submitted,

Darren “DJ” Jordan, Polemarch
East Central Province
Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.