

For Immediate Release: July 29, 2020

Contact: Anastasia Semien Douglas, (407) 634-9484, press@floridarrc.org

Michael Jordan and Jordan Brand Donate \$1 million to Combat Disenfranchisement of People with Felony Convictions

FRRC Fines and Fees Fund to Benefit from Donation

ORLANDO, FL (July 29, 2020) — On Wednesday, Michael Jordan and the Jordan Brand announced that the basketball great will donate \$1 million to the Formerly Incarcerated and Convicted Peoples and their Families Movement (FICPFM) to combat Black voter suppression and the disenfranchisement of people with felony convictions. The <u>Florida Rights Restoration Coalition (FRRC)</u> will receive \$500,000 of that donation to help pay off the fines and fees of Florida returning citizens so they can register to vote and move forward with their lives.

"This contribution will help strengthen our democracy and improve the lives of returning citizens in Florida," said FRRC Executive Director **Desmond Meade.** "The sports industry has really stepped up and shown us the power of putting people over politics, and I couldn't be more honored to receive this donation from the legend himself, Michael Jordan."

"Our \$100 million commitment was just the start and we are now moving from commitment to action," said **Michael Jordan**. "One of the ways we change this country's ingrained racism is by eliminating black voter suppression. Our initial partners will directly impact the social and political power of Black people in our country. We know it will take time to create the change we want to see, but we're working quickly to help make the Black Community's voice be heard."

"We are fully committed to addressing the long history of oppression that continues to plague Black Communities in the United States," said **Craig Williams**, President of Jordan Brand. "This will require urgent action and long-term engagement. As we continue to identify partner organizations, we will have a disciplined focus on social justice, economic justice and education, as the most effective ways for us to eliminate the systemic racism that remains in society."

Back on June 5, Michael Jordan and the Jordan Brand committed to donate \$100 million over 10 years to directly impact the fight against systemic racism. These donations will focus on three priority areas: social justice, economic justice and education and awareness.



Jordan and the Jordan brand also will also donate \$1 million to the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc. (LDF) and \$500,000 to Black Voters Matter. Partners were selected based on their ability to take action that can create impact now.

###

About The Florida Rights Restoration Coalition

FRRC is a grassroots, membership organization run by Returning Citizens (Formerly Convicted Persons) who are dedicated to ending the disenfranchisement and discrimination against people with convictions and creating a more comprehensive and humane reentry system that will enhance successful reentry, reduce recidivism, and increase public safety. For more information, visit https://floridarrc.com/.