

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

STATEMENT FROM BOB JOHNSON ABOUT THE PASSING OF FORMER U.S. REP. WILLIAM H. GRAY III

BETHESDA, MD//July 2, 2013// "I am deeply saddened to hear about the passing of Reverend Bill Gray. Not only was he a formidable political leader, he was a stalwart in the church, a brilliant businessman, and he was my friend.

"Reverend Gray was passionate about helping others and his voice was highly respected in his community, in the halls of Congress, and around the world. A devoted husband and father, a trusted advisor to presidents and among the leaders of men, Reverend Gray's presence will truly be missed."

Robert L. Johnson is founder of Black Entertainment Television (BET) and founder and chairman of The RLJ Companies.

About The RLJ Companies: The RLJ Companies, founded by Robert L. Johnson, is an innovative business network that provides strategic investments in a diverse portfolio of companies. Within The RLJ Companies portfolio, Johnson owns or holds interests in businesses operating in a publicly traded hotel real estate investment trust; private equity; financial services; asset management; insurance services; automobile dealerships; sports and entertainment; and video lottery terminal (VLT) gaming. The RLJ Companies is headquartered in Bethesda, MD, with affiliate operations in Charlotte, NC; Little Rock, AR; Los Angeles, CA; San Juan, PR; and Monrovia, Liberia. Prior to founding The RLJ Companies, Johnson was founder and chairman of Black Entertainment Television (BET). For more information visit: www.rljcompanies.com. Media inquiries: Traci Otey Blunt 240.743.7620 or press@rljcompanies.com.