



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

STATEMENT FROM BOB JOHNSON ON THE PASSING OF HERBERT P. WILKINS, SR.

Herb Wilkins, Sr., Founder and Managing Partner of Syndicated Communications Inc., was a pioneer in business and venture capital

BETHESDA, MD//DECEMBER 5, 2013// “I want to express my condolences, along with The RLJ Companies, to Herb Wilkins's wife Sharon and his family on the loss of the smartest and one of the most respected and influential African American business leaders I have had the good fortune to know.

“Herb was one of my best friends and a business mentor who guided me on the creation of Black Entertainment Television (BET) and District Cablevision, the first cable system in Washington, DC. For his advice on all of my business deals, I owe a great deal of thanks for his contribution to my success.

“Herb was also instrumental in creating wealth for many African American business men and women. While he will be missed greatly by all, his legacy will remain in our memories forever.”

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, 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

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