



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

STATEMENT FROM BOB JOHNSON ON THE PASSING OF NELSON MANDELA

BETHESDA, MD//DECEMBER 5, 2013// “President Mandela is a legendary figure for all time and for all mankind. He exhibited leadership and humanitarian qualities that, I would say, no other person has shown since the beginning of time. I had the humbling pleasure of being in his presence on several occasions and immediately recognized his ability to show strength and compassion in forgiveness that helped him forge a nation of freedom out of the fire of racial prejudice and apartheid. Rest in peace Madiba. Your long walk to freedom is over.”

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.*

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