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PRESS RELEASE

WASHINGTON TEACHERS' UNION ANNOUNCES ANOTHER BIG WIN, THIS TIME FOR BELOVED BASKETBALL COACH UNFAIRLY TERMINATED BY DCPS

Washington, DC – On the heels of two recent legal victories, Washington Teachers' Union (WTU) today announces yet another big win! DC Public Schools (DCPS) unfairly terminated beloved Coolidge Senior High School Basketball Coach Bryan Crumpton in 2007. WTU recently received confirmation that Arbitrator Jerome Barrett has ordered DCPS to immediately offer Coach Crumpton his former head varsity basketball coach position at Coolidge. In addition, DCPS must also remit to Coach Crumpton his back pay with interest and update his personnel record to reflect this award.

Crumpton began his employment with DCPS in 1988. In 2000, he moved to Coolidge, and a year later he became the head coach of the boys' varsity basketball team. He was a great coach, mentor, and role model for his students. Despite his stellar reputation and the fact that his team made it to the playoffs four of the six years he was at Coolidge, the principal gave his position to another candidate. He also indicated that Crumpton's performance was not satisfactory. Coach Crumpton was then transferred to another school.

WTU filed multiple grievances on the coach's behalf requesting that his transfer be rescinded, because it was in violation of the collective bargaining agreement (CBA) between WTU and DCPS. The CBA outlines specific steps for removing an educator from a coaching position, all of which DCPS disregarded. Barrett ultimately ruled in favor of the WTU that DCPS violated the collective bargaining agreement (CBA) when it failed to provide a rational and logical basis for removing Coach Crumpton from his position at Coolidge.

"This is a 100% win for WTU and yet another example of DCPS' culture of unfair terminations and flagrant disregard for the rules," stated WTU President Saunders. "This decision is unique in that DCPS was ordered to pay not only back pay, but also interest. However, the most unfortunate victims of this case were Coach Crumpton's players who were transferred, displaced and denied college scholarships because of this injustice. We can only hope that Coach Crumpton can go back to Coolidge where he made a difference in the lives of the students he coached and mentored."

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