

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**WESSON AND PROJECT SAVE HIGHLIGHT START OF “REAL MEN
CHOOSE PEACE LATE NIGHT HOOPS” MIDNIGHT BASKETBALL LEAGUE**

LOS ANGELES -- Councilmember Herb J. Wesson, Jr. (CD 10) and the Project SAVE gang intervention program celebrated the opening of the inaugural season of the “Real Men Choose Peace Late Night Hoops” midnight basket ball league at Rancho Cienega Sports Complex in Council District 10.

The league, which is an initiative of Councilmember Wesson and Project SAVE, has been established as a new effort to help keep the peace in various communities of Los Angeles. The league will provide over 100 young men with a positive outlet through recreation during the hours when gang violence usually occurs. The league will operate at the Rancho Cienega Sports Complex between 6:00 p.m. and 12:00 midnight every Tuesday and Thursday from October 9 through December 21, 2007.

“This is an important beginning. We want the success of this program to encourage more programs like it across the city. Keeping these young men busy during the evening hours will reduce the chance of their being involved in negative activities and will help make our communities safer,” said Wesson.

Joining Wesson at the ceremony was Brenda Shockley of Community Build, Inc., the non-profit organization that provides administrative support for Project SAVE; Minister Tony Muhammad, Chair of Project SAVE’s Board of Advisors, and gang intervention specialists Bo Taylor, T. Rodgers, and Stan Muhammad of Venice 2000.

Gang intervention programs with teams in the league include the Watts Gang Taskforce, Unity One, Unity Three, Venice 2000, Aztec Rising, Sidewalk University, Baldwin Village, Second Call from St. Andrews Recreation Center, and the Omega Psi Phi fraternity.

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