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**Recreation Wish List Committee (RWLC) of Washington, D.C.
Files Application and Petition for Reinstatement for Domestic
Non-Profit Corporation**

**Organization hopes filing will result in Mayor Fenty,
and other City officials, rescinding “Notice to Quit”**

Washington, D.C. Today, the Recreation Wish List Committee, (RWLC), of Washington, D.C., resolved the administrative issue which resulted in a “Notice to Vacate” being served on the organization by the city.

By filing the appropriate documents, it is the committee’s hope that Mayor Fenty, and other City officials, will immediately rescind the order, paving the way for the RWLC to continue to provide services for the children and families of Ward 8.

While there are many organizations throughout the city which do good work, the RWLC’s relationship with the City government is unique. A two person staff, with small offices within the Southeast Tennis and Learning Center, (SETLC), work in conjunction with the RWLC Board to raise funds to assist and supplement local government’s efforts to serve our children. Since 2001, the RWLC has raised over \$2 million dollars in funding for the SETLC.

RWLC raises hundreds of thousands of dollars per year to provide the following services to the community:

- RWLC primarily funds the education programs at the SETLC, including: the hiring of tutors, and outfitting the Computer lab with both computers and software;
- RWLC raises money to fund the SETLC’s academic summer programs. For instance, this summer, RWLC singularly sponsored a \$70,000, six-week reading and math academic program, in order for 60 children to improve their math and reading scores;
- RWLC provides chess, sewing and SAT review classes at the SETLC;

- RWLC sponsors trips for the children of the SETLC, in order for them to get exposure and obtain training at elite tennis facilities throughout the United States. For example, RWLC has sponsored trips for children to visit colleges, The US Open, and Chris Evert's and Bollettieri's Tennis Academies; and,
- Since 2001, RWLC has helped over 20 children attend college via Academic or Tennis scholarships.

Because of the RWLC's day-to-day commitment and love for the children at the SETLC, the organization also provides a safe and nurturing environment, which encourages families to leave their children at the center, knowing their children will be protected and cared for.

The RWLC sincerely hopes it will be able to continue its efforts to positively impact the lives of the children being served at the SETLC.

RWLC Draws Support from Williams Sisters

The RWLC has been supported by many organizations and individuals throughout the United States. **Most notably, World Tennis Champions, Venus and Serena Williams, who have released the following statement in support of the RWLC:**

“It would be tragic to see the Recreation Wish List Committee kicked out of the Southeast Tennis and Learning Center, a building which exists because of the vision of Mrs. Cora Masters Barry, and of the hard work and dedication of many others, because of a paperwork mistake. We were there when the Center was opened, and have returned many times since. We have contributed resources and support because of the RWLC's positive and continuous work for children. Our sister, Isha Price, is a dedicated member of the RWLC Board, and we are proud of the amazing support they give the children and the families of the community, much like the one we grew up in.

It is our hope that Mayor Fenty understands the critical need the RWLC is serving, and we are confident that he will resolve this issue as quickly as possible.”

--Venus and Serena Williams
August 17, 2009