[date]

Golden One Center

500 David J Stern Walk

Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Violence Against Women

To the Sacramento Kings Management & Ownership,

Your continuous excusing of violence against women perpetrated by your players is outrageous and must end immediately.

The fact is the Sacramento Kings represent Sacramento and its fans. When you travel, you carry the name of our city. And if the Kings players, management, and ownership condone acts of violence committed against women, your actions reverberate throughout our community and the nation. Not only are you telling the thousands of kids who worship the team that hitting women is okay, but you are showing the rest of the world that professional sports players can get away with anything.

Matt Barnes is expected to turn himself into New York City police for choking and knocking out a woman in a New York nightclub in early December. As of yet, we still haven’t heard of whether he has turned himself in, of any statement issued by the Kings, or of any consequences for his act of violence. Barnes was hired by the Kings in 2016 while being famous for having a history riddled by domestic violence and anger issues. He has been repeatedly arrested for such issues and once drove 95 miles to beat up his estranged wife’s boyfriend.

Darren Collison was arrested and charged for domestic violence in 2016. What was the consequence? An eight game suspension. Basketball players get a 5 game suspension for getting caught smoking marijuana for the third time. Are you saying those two offences are equivalent?

Ty Lawson, on one incident in 2013, was arrested and faced charges for harassment against his then-pregnant girlfriend. On another incident, again in 2013, Lawson was charged with physical assault during a domestic violence dispute. A restraining order was issued against him on behalf of his girlfriend. He had been playing for the Denver Nuggets at the time. What was his teammate’s response?

Wilson Chandler, Lawson’s teammate with the Nuggets, said Monday night [on Twitter](https://twitter.com/wilsonchandler/status/369642259458707456):

“Young Ty trying to get that street cred up lol.”’

Ty Lawson joined the Kings in 2016 with management having full knowledge of his history of domestic abuse.

I ask you this: Is this the type of culture you support as an organization? Is this the kind of team Sacramento deserves?

Three out of the 12 players on the current Kings roster have been charged for violence against women. **That is one quarter of our team.**

This is absolutely unacceptable and I expect the Kings management and ownership to make the first step to remedy this situation by adopting a moral turpitude policy that empowers the ownership and management to fire a Kings member with domestic violence charges filed against him[[1]](#footnote-0).

What you currently represent is not what I stand for as an individual being part of this community and as a fan of the Sacramento Kings. I expect a team which represents me and my community to have standards and show that there are consequences for physically assaulting women (and men). Professional sports players must be held accountable, just like anyone else in our community.

I call for the immediate firing of Matt Barnes, Darren Collison, and Ty Lawson.

In anticipation of a swift resolution,

[signature]

[printed name]

[address]

1. Being charged with domestic violence is a legal accusation. However, the instances of false accusations are so low, that the Kings ownership should have the authority, and are urged to, break contracts with charged players in instances like those illustrated above. [↑](#footnote-ref-0)