



July 7, 2006

VIA FACSIMILE AND DHL OVERNIGHT COURIER

Mr. Tim Stevens
Chairman
The Black Political Empowerment Project
c/o Hill House Association
1835 Centre Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Dear Mr. Stevens:

Kevin McClatchy and Patty Paytas forwarded a copy of your June 30, 2006 letter to us, as they thought we would be best suited to respond to your thoughts.

Please accept our appreciation for taking interest in the business of Major League Baseball Properties (MLBP). As you noted from our April 21, 2006 letter to Kenneth Miller (Miller Letter), we are very proud of the accomplishments of our licensees and what they have done and are doing in communities worldwide to provide gainful employment to tens of thousands of people, in all cases in what we understand to be full compliance with all applicable labor laws.

As you know from the Miller Letter, we are also very concerned about any accusations of wrongdoing by any of our licensees. To that end, whenever we have been told that a licensee has engaged in wrongful or improper behavior of any kind, including actions involving their employees, we have investigated each of the accusations and, in each instance, are pleased to report that we have never found any legitimate basis for these claims. That said, MLBP embraces any and all ideas that can help us do our jobs better. For your information, when we learned of Mr. Miller's claims we immediately wrote to him, asking him to provide us with the information that formed the basis for his conclusions. We still have not received any responses, despite repeated overtures from the Pirates.

We believe the public statements criticizing Major League Baseball and MLBP's licensees for engaging "sweatshop" labor are without merit. We take extreme umbrage at Mr. Miller's accusations. Given all that Major League Baseball has done to be a good public citizen, we are very concerned about the harmful impact that these false and damaging comments may have on our reputation. More importantly, MLBP does not condone anyone being the subject of illegal or unethical behavior. The failure of Mr. Miller to provide us with the information he purports to have while simultaneously criticizing MLBP for not responding to information of which it is unaware is disconcerting to say the least. As we have said, if there is any information that you or we can obtain that supports Mr. Miller's claims we will be sure to fully investigate it and address any bad behavior.

In your letter, you suggested that Major League Baseball implement policies designed to ensure that there are no illegal/unethical working conditions at any of our licensees' factories. This idea makes sense to us and, in addition to actions we have already taken, we have begun to explore the ways that others may have implemented similar policies. A large number of our apparel and headwear licensees are already participating in or operating such programs. Given the attention Mr. Miller has received from your group perhaps you can arrange for a meeting with you and Mr. Miller to discuss the proposals and the other issues that have been raised. We would be pleased to meet and will make ourselves available.

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL Properties

245 Park Avenue

New York, New York 10167

Phone 212.931.7900

www.mlb.com


In anticipation of our meeting, we thought you should be aware of the following facts:

- It appears that virtually all of the MLBPA apparel and headwear licensees authorized to distribute products in the United States are members of groups, such as the Fair Labor Association and Worker Rights Consortium, that have already established codes of conduct. We believe a number of those licensees have been acknowledged for their superlative track records in the employment area.
- MLBPA aggressively addresses the plight of individuals working under illegal and unethical working conditions through its worldwide anti-counterfeiting program. As counterfeiters produce illegal products under profit margins that undercut legitimate businesses around the world (thereby costing many workers their jobs and benefits), Major League Baseball is at the forefront of the effort to eliminate counterfeiting operations and, wherever possible, present cases to law enforcement officials to pursue.

Also in anticipation of a meeting, perhaps you can assist us in getting from Mr. Miller a direct and meaningful response to our questions. The information that has been published about MLBPA's licensees and licensing practices is very disturbing and worthy of investigation. Mr. Miller has stated or otherwise suggested that MLBPA licensees are employing workers at "poverty wages" and under "unsafe working conditions." A recent brochure also states that MLBPA licensees' workers are working "extreme forced overtime," subject to "mandatory pregnancy tests, firings for pregnancy and other violations of women's rights, " and have been "fired or blacklisted for trying to organize unions." We strongly believe such accusations are totally fallacious. That said, if these accusations are true then these practices will be addressed immediately. If, however, they are false, as we believe them to be, they should no longer be made. Either way, people need to take responsibility for what they say and do and we want to be sure that that happens.

I will call you shortly to follow up on this letter and to see if we can schedule a time to meet in the not too distant future. In the meantime, we thank you again for your interests in this situation.

Very truly yours,



Ethan G. Orlinsky
Senior Vice President and
General Counsel

EGO/gc

cc: Tim Brosnan
Kevin McClatchy
Patty Paytas