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March 7, 2013

Honorable Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Obama:

I knew and worked closely with Cesar Chavez and Dolores Huerta since I was a young member of the state Assembly marching with them to the state Capitol in Sacramento in 1966. Standing squarely behind their struggle was the towering figure of Fred Ross Sr.

Fred Ross may not be well known outside the thousands of activists, organizers and leaders he personally recruited or trained. But the organizing doctrines and strategic and tactical innovations he pioneered are still used by effective grassroots organizers and their organizations across the United States.

Please award Fred Ross Sr. the Presidential Medal of Freedom. It would be a testament about the commitment to democracy and self-determination for which he stood.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Willie L. Brown Jr.", written in a cursive style.

Willie L. Brown Jr.