



WENDY GREUEL
CONTROLLER

March 14, 2013

Dear President Obama:

I am writing to ask you to award posthumously the Presidential Medal of Freedom to the legendary organizer, Fred Ross, Sr. For nearly half a century, Fred educated, organized, and inspired people of all races and backgrounds to overcome fear, despair and cynicism. He was a pioneer who fought for racial and economic justice throughout his lifetime.

Fred Ross Sr. is most remembered for his work with America's farm workers and their struggle for justice and dignity during the 1960s and 1970s. He trained close to 2,000 grape and lettuce boycott and strike organizers in every major city in the United States and Toronto, Canada. The powerful pressure that resulted from massive collective action led to the passage of the historic California Agricultural Labor Relations Act signed into law by California Governor Jerry Brown in 1975.

This work, along with decades of unselfish work and achievements make him deserving of the Presidential Medal of Freedom. He was a champion for so many and should not be forgotten. Fred Ross Sr.'s enduring legacy as an organizer who built collective action, citizenship engagement, and leadership development has never been more relevant or important to our democracy.

In recognition of Fred Ross, Sr. and his work on behalf of so many that he gave a voice to, I urge you to confer the Presidential Medal of Freedom posthumously upon Fred Ross, Sr. This recognition would be a beacon of hope for living and future organizers committed to social justice.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Wendy Greuel". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Wendy Greuel