

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

November 4, 2016

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

Dear President Obama,

We are honored to encourage you to award the Presidential Medal of Freedom posthumously to heroic civil rights leader Medgar Wiley Evers.

Medgar Evers served our nation as a member of the U.S. Army during World War II and then as a leader of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) in Mississippi. As the first Field Secretary in Mississippi for the NAACP, Mr. Evers recruited volunteers, led demonstrations and organized voter registration in an effort to end racial discrimination in our society. Mr. Evers was tragically assassinated in front of his home in Jackson, Mississippi, on June 12, 1963, as a result of his work to promote social justice, racial equality and voting rights.

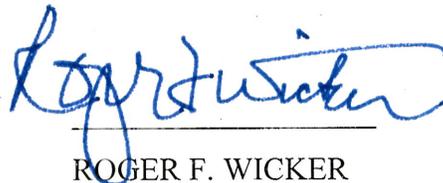
Mr. Evers dedicated his life to the defense of civil rights in Mississippi and the United States. In recognition of his role in the Civil Rights Movement, he was posthumously awarded the NAACP Spingarn Medal for outstanding achievement in 1963 and is featured in the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture. His leadership, dedication and sacrifice continue to inspire many Americans and have enhanced freedom for all of humankind.

We would appreciate your personal attention to this request. If we can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,



THAD COCHRAN
United States Senator



ROGER F. WICKER
United States Senator


BENNIE G. THOMPSON
Member of Congress


STEVEN PALAZZO
Member of Congress


GREGG HARPER
Member of Congress


TRENT KELLY
Member of Congress

Enclosure