

STATE OF MINNESOTA  
COUNTY OF CARVER

DISTRICT COURT  
FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
PROBATE DIVISION

In Re:

Estate of Prince Rogers Nelson,  
Decedent,

And

Tyka Nelson,  
Petitioner.

Case Type: Special Administration  
Court File No.: 10-PR-16-46  
Judge: Kevin W. Eide

**AFFIDAVIT OF ANTHONY 'VAN' JONES  
IN SUPPORT OF PETITION FOR  
FORMAL ADJUDICATION OF  
INTESTACY, DETERMINATION OF  
HEIRS AND APPOINTMENT OF  
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE**

STATE OF CALIFORNIA )  
 ) ss.  
COUNTY OF ALAMEDA )

Anthony 'Van' Jones, after being duly sworn, states:

1. I submit this affidavit in support of Omarr Baker's Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy, Determination of Heirs and Appointment of Personal Representative, filed on December 13, 2016 ("Petition"). I have personal knowledge of all the facts contained herein.
2. I received my undergraduate degree from the University of Tennessee and my law degree from the Yale Law School. I am a successful, award-winning and globally-recognized social entrepreneur, having launched numerous successful enterprises over the past two decades. I have earned success in many sectors by building world-class teams that cross lines of race and viewpoint.

3. After law school, I moved to the Bay Area. Working at the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights, I started the region's only bar-certified lawyer-referral service for police abuse claimants.
4. In 1996, I founded the Ella Baker Center for Human Rights, an award-winning non-profit center, based in Oakland, California, that focuses on criminal justice reform. I currently serve as a board member of the Ella Baker Center.
5. Following Hurricane Katrina in 2005, I co-founded ColorOfChange.org: a Web-based grassroots organization to promote racial equality. The organization now has more than one million members.
6. I was the main advocate for the Green Jobs Act, which was signed into law by President George W. Bush in 2007. The Green Jobs Act was the first piece of federal legislation to codify the term "green jobs." During the Obama Administration, the legislation resulted in \$500 million in national funding for green jobs training.
7. In 2009, Green For All [an organization that I founded with financial support from Prince Rogers Nelson ("Prince") in 2008] teamed up with The Black Eyed Peas during the North America-run of their World E.N.D. [Energy Never Dies] Tour to help raise awareness about how environmental challenges and lack of economic opportunity combine to adversely impact many American communities. At each tour stop, plastic bottles from the band's concert venues were recycled into T-shirts and other band merchandise. Green For All volunteers conducted educational outreach at each venue, encouraging people to support climate change and green-jobs legislation. This is just one example of many times artists and influencers have turned to me or my enterprises to inform their philanthropy and activism. For example, I coordinated a panel with Chris Tucker and Will.i.am for the

- Milken Institute; I coordinated a panel on criminal justice reform with Alicia Keys for POLITICO; and I coordinated a panel on criminal justice reform with Piper Kerman, Richard Branson, Susan Sarandon, and Senator Cory Booker for Virgin Unite.
8. In 2009, I worked as the Special Advisor for Green Jobs to President Barack Obama. In this role, I helped to lead the inter-agency process that oversaw an \$80 billion dollar investment in skills training and jobs development within the environmental and green energy sectors.
  9. I have authored two *New York Times* best-selling books, *The Green Collar Economy* (2008) (New York: HarperOne, ISBN 978-0-06-165075-8) and *Rebuild the Dream* (2012) (New York: Nation Books, ISBN 1-56858-714-7), which detail my work as an environmental and human rights activist and becoming a White House policy advisor. *The Green Collar Economy* outlines a viable plan for solving the biggest issues facing the country today--the economy and the environment, and received favorable reviews from Al Gore, Nancy Pelosi, and Arianna Huffington. The book debuted at #12 on the *New York Times* bestseller list, becoming the first environmental book authored by an African American to make the list. My second book, *Rebuild the Dream*, also a *New York Times* bestseller, put forward a powerful game plan to restore hope, fix our democracy, and renew the American Dream.
  10. In 2010, I became a senior fellow at the Center for American Progress, where I led its Green Opportunity Initiative, focusing on policy matters related to green jobs and how cities are implementing job-creating climate solutions.
  11. In 2010, I also received appointments at Princeton University, as a distinguished visiting fellow in both the Center for African American Studies and in the Program in Science,

Technology and Environmental Policy at the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs.

12. In 2011, I launched an advocacy project called Rebuild the Dream. The launch included performances by The Roots and a DJ set by artist Shepard Fairey. From 2010 to 2012, Rebuild the Dream engaged in various movements across the country, including the Hawaii Revival of poetry, music and politics which transformed into support for a bill creating Hawaii's first State Bank; a major art installation in Los Angeles alongside a gallery featuring more than 100 artists.
13. In August 2012, Rebuild the Dream partnered with Prince Rogers Nelson ("Prince") for a series of performances in Chicago. Prior to the concerts, I joined Prince and Rosario Dawson on The View to promote the message of economic recovery and community building. At the "Rebuild the Dream Village" at the concert, local community organizations, social entrepreneurs, tech startups, and other visionaries invited concert-goers to share their stories, participate in public art projects, join trainings, and envision a better world. Over 60,000 people were exposed to the 26 community organizations in the Village—and every side reported overwhelmingly positive interactions, with some organizations doubling their membership in those three days.
14. In 2014, I launched #YesWeCode, that aims to train 100,000 low-opportunity youth to become high-level computer programmers; and in 2015 I launched #cut50, a bipartisan communications campaign to reduce the incarceration rate. These endeavors (particularly #cut50) requires extensive negotiations and collaboration across diverse interests and organizations.

15. Shortly after Trayvon Martin was shot and killed in February 2012, I spoke with Prince about the circumstances of the shooting. Out of our conversation was born #YesWeCode. On the July 4th weekend in 2014, Prince and I launched #YesWeCode at Essence Festival—the largest gathering and celebration of African Americans on the planet. The launch included the debut of a tech village featuring 15 coding organizations and tech companies from all over the country (including Facebook and Google) and the first-ever youth hackathon (with more than 100 participants) at the Essence Festival. During the weekend’s sold-out concert, Prince gave #YesWeCode a shout-out on stage to more than 50,000 people.
16. I have received many awards and honors in my career, including the following:
- A. 1997–1999 – Rockefeller Foundation “Next Generation Leadership” Fellowship
  - B. 1998 – Reebok International Human Rights Award
  - C. 2000 – International Ashoka Fellowship
  - D. 2005 – World Economic Forum “Young Global Leader”
  - E. 2008 – *Time* Magazine Environmental Hero
  - F. 2008 – *Elle* Magazine Green Award
  - G. 2008 – One of the George Lucas Foundation’s “Daring Dozen”
  - H. 2008 – Hunt Prime Mover Award; Hunt Alternatives Fund
  - I. 2008 – Campaign for America's Future “Paul Wellstone Award”
  - J. 2008 – Global Green USA “Community Environmental Leadership” Award
  - K. 2008 – San Francisco Foundation Community Leadership Award
  - L. 2008 – Puffin/Nation Prize for Creative Citizenship
  - M. 2008 – World Economic Forum “Young Global Leader”
  - N. 2008 – *Essence* Magazine 25 Most Inspiring African Americans
  - O. 2008 – *Fast Company*’s 12 Most Creative Minds on Earth
  - P. 2009 – Hubert H. Humphrey Civil Rights Award
  - Q. 2009 – Eco-Entrepreneur Award, Institute for Entrepreneurship, Leadership & Innovation; Howard University
  - R. 2009 – Individual Thought Leadership, Energy & Environment Awards; Aspen Institute
  - S. 2009 - *TIME* Magazine’s 100 Most Influential People in the World
  - T. 2010 – NAACP President’s Award
  - U. 2010 – Commonwealth Club of California – Inforum’s 21st Century Visionary Award
  - V. 2010 – Global Exchange Human Rights Award Honoree
  - W. 2011 – *Ebony* Magazine’s Power 150

- X. 2012 – *Rolling Stone* Magazine’s 12 Leaders Who Get Things Done
  - Y. 2013 – *The Root* Magazine’s 100 Honorees
  - Z. 2013 – *Ebony* Magazine’s Power 100
  - AA. 2015 – National Urban League’s Toyota Clean Energy Honoree
  - BB. 2015 – Environmental Media Association’s Green Biz Global Innovator Award
  - CC. 2015 – Rainbow Push Coalition’s 2015 Vanguard Award
  - DD. 2015 – David E. Glover Vanguard Award
17. I am a frequent contributor to the national media, authoring more than 50 Op-Eds, book chapters, and articles on a wide range of political, social and economic issues, including in *USA Today*, *Washington Post*, *San Francisco Chronicle*, *Los Angeles Times*, *CNN*, and *The Huffington Post*.
18. I have served as co-host of CNN’s political debate show *Crossfire*, and I am currently a regular CNN political commentator, frequently appearing across the network’s programming and special political coverage. I host and produce the CNN special *The Messy Truth*. I have also been a guest on TV programs like *The Daily Show* and *Real Time with Bill Maher*, and I have made special appearances on *House of Cards* and appeared on and assisted in production of Ava Duvernay’s documentary “*The 13th*.”
19. During the 2016 presidential election, *The Washington Post* dubbed one of my contributions “the most compelling TV moment of the campaign.” A *New York Times* profile in November 2016 called me a “star of the 2016 campaign.” Throughout my career, I have worked hard to collaborate with individuals across the political spectrum, including Newt Gingrich and the Koch Brothers.
20. I had a close relationship Prince during his lifetime, both personally and professionally. Our friendship began when I was first building a human rights organization and received a generous, but anonymous, check. I sought out the donor of the check, wanting to ensure that its origin was legitimate. This initial interaction resulted over time in a deep friendship

that lasted until Prince's death. In addition to being Prince's personal friend, I also acted as an advisor to help Prince anonymously fund humanitarian work. This long relationship gives me unique insight into carrying out Prince's wishes in the administration of his estate and preservation of his legacy.

21. I have a good relationship with many of Prince's friends and family members, including Tyka Nelson and Omarr Baker. After Prince's death, Omarr Baker reached out to me for help. I agreed to help Mr. Baker at no cost and assisted him in obtaining counsel. Since then, I have continued to advise Mr. Baker for the benefit of the Estate. My representation was for the purpose of assisting the entire Estate and to give Mr. Baker—and now Tyka Nelson, as well—the advice they needed to benefit the Estate. Since agreeing to representation, I have assisted Omarr Baker and Tyka Nelson on a pro bono basis.
22. I do not have any conflicts with the Estate. Should I be appointed co-personal representative of the Estate, I will terminate my representation of Omarr Baker and Tyka Nelson.
23. My legal and public sector experience, combined with my extensive connections, make me well-suited for the task of co-personal representative. I have the time and resources to commit to acting as co-personal representative. Moreover, my experience working in various sectors and across political divides makes me well-suited to working as a neutral problem-solver, a skill set needed to act as co-personal representative. If appointed as co-personal representative, I would serve the Estate with the same principles of loyalty, efficiency and success that I bring to my organizations. I understand the importance of fiduciary responsibilities and will treat all heirs in an unbiased manner. I further understand that John, Norrine, and Sharon Nelson object to my appointment as co-personal

representative, and I am open and willing to meet with them to discuss. Using my expertise in teambuilding and bringing divergent viewpoints together, I would apply myself to the role of co-personal representative and foster a collaborative atmosphere for the administration of the Estate.

24. By virtue of my five-year collaboration with Prince, and the friendship we developed, I have extensive knowledge of Prince which I would apply to act as a willing, suitable, and competent co-personal representative of the Estate.
25. Omarr Baker and Tyka Nelson have requested that I serve as co-personal representative of the Estate. Based upon my knowledge of and experience working with Prince, my strong desire personally to help the Estate, my relationship with the parties to these proceedings, and my collaboration and organizational skills, I believe I am the ideal choice to work with the corporate personal representative and provide value to the Estate and the heirs.
26. I am willing to accept the position of co-personal representative, and I will serve the Estate and the heirs impartially.
27. I declare under penalty of perjury that everything I have stated in this document is true and correct pursuant to Minnesota Statute § 358.116.



FURTHER YOUR AFFIANT SAYETH NOT.

Dated: January 11, 2017

*Anthony K. "VAN" Jones*  
Anthony 'Van' Jones

Subscribed and sworn to before me  
this 11th day of January, 2017.

*Lisa Zay*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

LISA ZAY  
Notary Public, State of New York  
No. 01ZA6081097 *NOSSON*  
Qualified in Queens County  
Commission Expires Sept. 30, 20 18