

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2202

November 20, 2009

Mr. Frank Martin  
Producer/Writer/Director  
*For Love of Liberty: The Story of America's Black Patriots*  
17003 Ventura Boulevard, Suite 200  
Encino, CA 91316

Dear Mr. Martin:

The history of our armed forces is one of incredible bravery and selfless sacrifice. That is certainly true of our African-American service members, whose bravery and sacrifice included, for most of our nation's existence the fact that they had to cope not only with the danger of combat and the difficulties of military life, but also with the struggle to be treated equally. Before they could face the enemy, they often had to fight for the right to serve.

What is it that these young men saw in our nation that drove them to defend it, despite the offenses against them and the pain inflicted upon them by segregation and bigotry? They must have sensed that, despite the harm their nation had done them, it was nonetheless a nation worth fighting for. They saw a spark of hope that this was a country worth dying for and that they, in their courage and patriotism, could help that spark become a flame of justice.

I am pleased that *For Love of Liberty: The Story of America's Black Patriots* will shine a new light on this important part of our nation's story. African-Americans have served America's armed forces, from the Revolutionary War to today's conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. Their stories must be heard and remembered, their struggles known, and their service to our nation celebrated.

Best wishes.

Sincerely,



Carl Levin