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National Urban League, Inc.

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August
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Dear Mr. and Mrs. Goodman:

I should like to join with the thousands of other Americans who have expressed deep condolences over the confirmed death of your son. While I commiserate with you in your grief, I must also congratulate you on having reared the type of young man who could give his life for the cause of freedom and simple justice for other human beings.

In so doing, Andrew Goodman, Michael Schwerner and James Chaney spoke a message to America it had never really heard before - namely, that those who would block the passage to justice for one human being because he is black, would do it also for any human being, regardless of color, with whom they should disagree.

Your son helped to clarify for the world that this is not a struggle between black and white, but rather between right and wrong - a struggle between decent people who care, and callous people who are cruel.

Please let me assure you that your sacrifice - and theirs - has not been in vain; we are all in your debt.

Sincerely yours,

Whitney M. Young, Jr.
Whitney M. Young, Jr.
Executive Director.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Goodman
161 West 86th Street
New York, New York