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MEDIA RELEASE

KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS AGAIN SUED FOR UNLAWFUL RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

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Honolulu, Hawaii; August 6, 2008: Attorneys Eric Grant and David B. Rosen today filed suit in federal district court against Kamehameha Schools/Bishop Estate on behalf of four children and their families who seek an end to the "Native Hawaiians only" admissions policy maintained by the Estate's Trustees. The present lawsuit is essentially identical to the earlier lawsuit filed on behalf of "John Doe," which the Trustees settled last year in order to prevent the legality of their admissions policy from being considered by the United States Supreme Court.

Mr. Grant, one of the attorneys who earlier represented John Doe, explained: "The purpose of today's action is to obtain a definitive ruling from the Supreme Court that the Trustees' racially exclusionary admissions policy violates our Nation's civil rights laws. Our clients believe, and we agree with them, that such a ruling will have a significant impact in reversing unfortunate trends towards discrimination and even segregation in Hawaii."

The students and their families who bring this lawsuit are representative of Hawaii. They are kama'ina, multi-ethnic, and of varying economic means. They reside across the State, and they are Hawaiian in every sense save the merely genetic, i.e., the birthplace of their ancient ancestors. The plaintiffs seek no special treatment—only equal treatment, namely, the right to be considered for admission without regard to race or ancestry.

Mr. Rosen, a solo practitioner in Honolulu, added: "We are confident that most Hawaiians are justifiably proud of their unique, multi-ethnic, local heritage. We are also confident that most Hawaiians are equally proud of the rights and freedoms that we all share as citizens of the United States of America, among them the right to be free from racial and ethnic discrimination. It is in furtherance of this basic right that we join our clients in beginning the journey back to the United States Supreme Court."

An Adobe PDF version of the plaintiffs' complaint may be downloaded from Mr. Grant's website: http://www.eric-grant.com/work.html#Top.