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**Position Guide**

**President & CEO**

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**ORGANIZATION:** National Basketball Retired Players Association (NBPA)

**POSITION:** President & Chief Executive Officer

**REPORTS TO:** Board of Directors

**LOCATION:** Chicago, IL

#### **MISSION**

The National Basketball Retired Players Association is a charitable 501(c)3 non-profit organization with a two-pronged mission to assist former NBA, ABA, Harlem Globetrotters and WNBA players in their transition from the playing court into life after the game, while also positively impacting communities and youth through basketball.

#### **ABOUT NBPA**

Founded in 1992 by NBA Legends Dave DeBusschere, Dave Bing, Archie Clark, Dave Cowens and Oscar Robertson, the National Basketball Retired Players Association (NBRPA) is a nonprofit association comprised of former professional basketball players of the NBA, ABA, WNBA, and Harlem Globetrotters. It is the only alumni association of its kind supported directly by the NBA and National Basketball Players Association (NBPA).

Celebrating its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2017, the Association provides a host of programs, services and benefits designed to help retired basketball players and their families successfully navigate life after the game. In support of its membership, the NBRPA proactively offers a full menu of education, health, finance and career/life transition benefits to retired basketball players and their families.

Working in conjunction with the NBA and NBPA, the NBRPA's membership promotes basketball and enhances the sport's image by building community relationships and fostering support for charitable activities and philanthropic events with a connection to the game.

By playing in the NBA, ABA, WNBA or with the Harlem Globetrotters, NBRPA members helped build the game of basketball and – through the distinction of an on-court professional career at the sport's highest levels – remain ambassadors to the game for life. NBRPA members embody the game long after taking the court professionally and put their notoriety to positive use as spokespersons and conduits of good will in the basketball community.

The NBRPA has five core assets:

- **Membership:** The NBRPA has more than 850 members who played in the NBA, ABA, WNBA or with the Harlem Globetrotters (including the game's greatest players of all time).
- **Access:** The NBRPA serves as the premier, central contact point for all NBA retired players.
- **Events:** The NBRPA hosts several charitable, corporate and private events annually, including cornerstone events during the NBA's All-Star Weekend, Full Court Press youth events, as well as annual Legends World Sports Conference each summer.
- **Legends Care™:** The 501(c)3 charitable arm of the NBRPA is dedicated to youth programs and additionally addresses several social and economic issues membership faces in life after basketball.
- **Chapters:** With local branches in Atlanta, Chicago, Dallas, Houston, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, Orlando, South Florida and Phoenix, the NBRPA Chapters bring the organization's assets, visions and programs to local communities.

The NBRPA's cornerstone education program, the Dave DeBusschere Scholarship Fund, has provided more than \$1.5M in scholarship dollars to members and their families. The DeBusschere Scholarship provides financial support to eligible NBRPA members, their spouses, children and grandchildren in pursuit of degrees in higher education. In 2016, the NBRPA awarded 73 scholarships to recipients across the country.

In the community, Full Court Press: Prep for Success events have been the flagship youth empowerment event series for several years. Through these events, the NBRPA seeks to empower underserved youth through a memorable, day-long learning experience that includes equal time spent on the basketball court and in the classroom. At each event, at least four NBRPA Legends serve as on-court coaches sharing their on-court knowledge as well as personal stories and the positive life choices that made them professional athletes. Classroom life skills are conducted by the NBRPA's philanthropic partners including the National Urban League and the National Police Athletic/Activities League, who cover topics like nutrition, financial literacy, health and wellness and more.

The NBRPA is led by an elected Board of Directors of 12, a dedicated staff of 6 and has an operating budget of approximately \$2.5M.

## **OPPORTUNITY**

With energetic corporate leadership and Board, the future has never been brighter at the NBRPA. The NBRPA has solid cornerstone partnerships with the National Basketball Association (NBA) and the National Basketball Players Association (NBPA), who provide direct financial support to the NBRPA's mission in addition to collaborating on programs and service projects.

The next President & CEO will be responsible for setting the direction of NBRPA as it moves into its next 25 years. Particularly, the President & CEO will be responsible for furthering the relationship with critical partners to ensure the alignment and achievement of mutual goals. This will involve working with the Board of Directors to outline a broad strategic vision for the NBRPA through the development of a robust strategic plan. This plan will seek input from the Board, members, the NBA, NBPA, WNBA, and others to ensure the needs of the members and the key partners are identified and addressed.

## **POSITION SUMMARY**

The CEO is responsible for the overall leadership of the organization, ensuring delivery of the highest quality services while safeguarding its financial stability. As the leader of the organization, the CEO reports to the Board of Directors and is responsible for: implementing a sound strategic plan to address the growing needs of NBRPA and its community; representing the organization as its key spokesperson and chief fundraiser; developing and managing the organization's overall finances; collaborating with other leaders and decision makers in the NBA, NBPA, WNBA and others; providing the vision to address future challenges and opportunities; managing and leading the staff and fostering an organizational climate to develop and build staff competencies and equitable policies and practices; and supporting innovation and strengthening community.

## **CANDIDATE PROFILE**

We seek a proven executive-level leader whose career in a similar-size or larger national association, or comparable business enterprise, has been noted by their ability to chart a path forward with exceptional communication skills and servant leadership approach. This person must exhibit success in collaborating with and convening diverse stakeholders sharing common interests and values so that the tactics and strategic goals of the organization are pursued in a collegial, transparent and highly participatory manner. While not required, individuals with experience in sports/entertainment are encouraged to apply.

The successful candidate will have a proven record in building strategic activities and partnerships on behalf of an organization or association; a creative approach to marketing and branding; strong negotiation skills and a comfort level being the face of the organization. We seek a leader who can develop and support a team of professional employees through effective delegation, professional development and confident decision making. The qualified candidate will possess a high level of business and financial acumen.

This person should demonstrate an ability to both raise the profile of NBPRA nationally and internationally and to support the best interests of members. Experience working with stakeholders to build new business relationships, partnerships and expanded membership is highly desired. Along with these skills, some of the important personal attributes we seek include authenticity, strategic problem-solving, proactive approaches, diplomacy, humbleness and nimbleness.

An undergraduate degree from an accredited college or university is required. An advanced degree is preferred. Demonstration of continuing professional education, accreditation in a professional field and/or board leadership would be highly desirable.

To apply, please send a current resume and letter of introduction to Kittleman & Associates, LLC at <https://www.kittlemansearch.com/the-national-basketball-retired-players-association/>.

For more information about the National Basketball Retired Players Association (NBPRA) visit: <http://www.legendsofbasketball.com/>