

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **TOUCH 106.1 FM STATION MANAGER TO WALK FOR POWER CHARLES CLEMONS WILL WALK FROM BOSTON TO LOS ANGELES BRING ATTENTION TO LOW POWER RADIO STATIONS**

**Boston, MA**, March 20, 2009 – On March 21, 2009, TOUCH 106.1 FM Station Owner and General Manager Charles Clemons will be “Walking for Power” across the United States in an effort to draw attention to the Congressional restrictions on low power FM radio stations and the Federal Communications Commission’s (FCC) treatment of independent, community-owned and operated, African American radio stations, “The Walk for Power is about raising the level of community awareness, voice, business, and empowerment, one step at a time,” Clemons said.

Presently, less than two percent of U.S. radio stations are owned by African Americans, an extremely small number given the community’s longstanding and significant involvement in the entertainment industry. In addition, the majority of Black-owned stations are often low-wattage with limited broadcast hours. Over the past 40 years, Boston’s African American community has had only one major radio station, WILD-1090 AM, which only broadcasts during daylight hours.

Because TOUCH 106.1 FM is a low power station, it is limited by the FCC to a 3.5 mile radius. The restriction places the station at a huge disadvantage when it comes to promoting community awareness and attracting advertisers, especially when you consider the 21 million African American consumers who spend close to a trillion dollars a year, “I’m walking to bring national attention to the unfairness of public radio,” he said.

The Walk for Power is designed to bring to light issues surrounding low power radio and the dilemma of African American media owners and their fight to have more of a voice in what messages are delivered to their communities. Clemons believes that communities in America have the right to develop their own media for their own listeners that can compete with market driven forces of mainstream media.

As he walks across the country, Clemons will join with other independent media owners, producers, and supporters to educate the general public about the need for alternative, community-based radio stations, and to demand that the FCC create and enforce a level playing field so that all communities in this country can be empowered by their media. Clemons is also lobbying for Congress to pass the Local Community Radio Act of 2007, the bill that will bring low power FM radio to America’s big cities.

#### **About TOUCH 106.1 FM**

The mission of TOUCH 106.1 FM is to raise the level of consciousness in our community, stop the violence and start peace and reunite the family. For more information, visit [www.walk4power.com](http://www.walk4power.com).