



Office of the Chair  
Chairman Joe A. Martinez  
Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners

April 9, 2012

Mr. Jeffrey Loria

Owner  
Miami Marlins  
501 Marlins Way  
Miami, Florida 33125

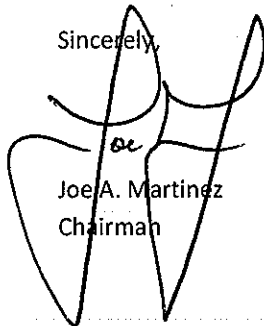
Dear Mr. Loria:

This past Saturday, I read the Time Magazine interview of your team manager, Mr. Ozzie Guillen, and I was extremely disappointed and offended by his remarks about the Cuban tyrant, Fidel Castro. Although I will always defend an individual's right to express an opinion, one has to realize that those in the public eye must always be mindful of the consequences an incendiary statement can have. Any person that says they respect and admire an individual that represents the oppression and domination of a country and its people should cause us grave concern. To say you respect Fidel Castro, suggests he also respects dictators such as Hugo Chavez, Daniel Ortega, Adolf Hitler, and Sadam Hussein. This is not about a single individual but what that individual represents: oppression, persecution, and denial of the most basic civil liberties. Such a sentiment is incongruent with the ideals that make up this great nation. As such, his apology is insufficient.

I am fully aware that politics and sports should not be mixed together; however, Mr. Guillen's provocative statements are a slap in the face of those who have fought oppression in this community and everywhere in the world. The residents of Miami-Dade County, which is a microcosm of America, with many cultures have been offended. If Mr. Guillen feels that way about a man who has brought decades of abuse and civil rights violations upon its people, maybe he should move there and live like the average Cuban does. I can safely guarantee that his opinion will indeed be different. I do not believe his apology was heartfelt and it was forced upon him when the team realized that immediate damage control was necessary.

In the name of all Americans especially those who have come from other countries escaping persecution, I strongly urge that you call for the resignation of Mr. Guillen. I truly hope that you consider this as there is no other alternative that would be satisfactory. Anything less, adds insult to injury to this great community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Joe A. Martinez", is written over the typed name and title.

Joe A. Martinez  
Chairman