**MEDIA ALERT**

**The City of Dallas' National Champions Paul Quinn College Men's Basketball Team to Be Honored for Their Historic Win**

*Team to Receive Proclamation, Recognitions from Mayor and Elected Officials*

**What:** The Paul Quinn College men’s basketball championship team will be honored by Dallas Mayor Eric Johnson at Dallas City Hall, receiving a proclamation and additional recognitions by Dallas City Council Member Tennell Atkins and other elected officials tomorrow morning during the Council Briefing in the Council Chambers for their National Championship win during the school’s 150th anniversary year.

The Paul Quinn College Tigers team, led by Coach of the Year Brandon Espinosa, won the United States Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Championship on March 10, 2022, in an 80 to 69 victory over the Bryant & Stratton College Bobcats at the Championship Tournament in Richmond, Virginia. Players Spencer McElway and Trevoin Shaw were named 1st Team All-Americans, Ja'Mare Redus was named 2nd Team All-American, and Coach Espinosa was named Coach of the Year for Division I men’s teams.

This is the school’s third national championship win in men’s basketball. Flags bearing the school’s colors, downtown Dallas skyline and photos of the Paul Quinn campus will be flown around City Hall for the next month in celebration of the team’s historic win.

**Where:** Dallas City Hall, Flag Room and Council Chambers, 6th Floor, 1500 Marilla St., Dallas, Texas 75201

**Who:**

* Eric Johnson, Mayor, City of Dallas
* Tennell Atkins, City Councilmember District 8, Dallas, Texas
* Dr. Michael J. Sorrell, President, Paul Quinn

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**More info:**

Paul Quinn College is a member of the United States Collegiate Athletic Association, National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics, and the Red River Athletic Conference, Paul Quinn College offers varsity men’s and women’s basketball, soccer, track, cross country, and women’s volleyball teams.

United States Collegiate Athletic Association is a national governing body that provides quality intercollegiate athletic competition on a national level. The USCAA exists to provide small colleges the opportunity to compete against like institutions in size and resource for National Championships and student-athlete recognition.

**About Coach Espinosa**

Brandon Espinosa is in his third season as Head Men’s Basketball Coach at Paul Quinn College. During his first season with Paul Quinn, Espinosa led the Tigers to the most conference victories since 2012-2013. In addition, PQC had two players receive RRAC All Conference honors; Spencer McElway was 1st Team All RRAC and Mateo Escheik received 2nd Team All RRAC honors. McElway finished the season ranked ninth in scoring, second in rebounding, was the conference leader in blocks per game and joined the schools 1000-point club.

Espinosa also serves as the Director of EYBL and 17U Head Coach for Drive Nation which was founded by former NBA All-Star Jermaine O’Neal. This summer Drive Nation qualified for the 2021 Nike Peach Jam and currently has the most ESPN Top 100 ranked players in the country. Espinosa has held coaching positions at Bossier Parish Community College, Ranger College and with the Dallas Mavericks NBA G-League affiliate, Texas Legends.

In 2016-17, while he was the associate head coach for Chris Lovell at Bossier Parish Community College, Bossier qualified for the Region 14 Championship Tournament for the first time since becoming a member of the conference. In 2017-2018 Bossier again qualified for the Region 14 Championship Tournament and finished with a record of 17-14. The 17 wins was the most for a team at Bossier in ten years.

While at Ranger College, he helped head coach Billy Gillispie orchestrate the biggest turnaround in college basketball history. During the 2015-2016 season Ranger went from 2-23 the previous year to 35-3, making the NJCAA national tournament and a Final Four appearance for the first time in the schools 90-year history.

From 2013-2015, Espinosa was an assistant coach with the Dallas Mavericks NBA G-League affiliate Texas Legends. Espinosa coached under Eduardo Najera, who in 2000 was the first Mexican born player to be drafted into the NBA. During the 2013-2014 campaign the Texas Legends tied the franchise record for most wins in a season with 24. Legends guard PJ Hairston was the first G-League player ever to be drafted in the first round of an NBA draft when he was selected 26th overall by the Miami Heat in 2014.

Espinosa also served as the associate head coach for Jeff Webster and Nike Pro Skills 17U EYBL team from 2016-2018.

Espinosa is a native of Houston, Texas. He played collegiately for Dallas Christian College, where in 2010 they won the ACCA (Christian College) National Championship. Espinosa earned his bachelor’s degree in Business Administration in 2011.