Dear \_\_\_\_\_\_\_,

 On May 1, 2015 Chicagoans attending Alabama State University established a "Chicago Club" on campus. The purpose of this organization is to build an alliance with Chicagoans attending our university. Beneficially, the organization allows individuals to connect through activities, community service, networking, and even alumni interaction. It also allows new Hornets from Chicago the opportunity to make a smoother transition from home to Alabama State University. "The City," an Alabama State University student organization is using the ongoing violence that is happening in our hometown as inspiration to turn the negativity into something positive. Benefiting not only Chicago but also the nation, "The City" will raise awareness of gun violence/violence in America. The "ILLA"-NOISE PEACE FEST will be used to get publicity and acknowledgement throughout the nation. We will use the concert in Montgomery, Alabama as a benefit to raise money for our future non-profit foundation called Worthy & Willing Stop the Violence Foundation. This foundation will not only support the families of the deceased, but also build the Worthy & Willing Community Center to develop more extracurricular activities that will keep the misguided youth off of the streets. This movement, with your help, will be based in Chicago, Montgomery and eventually throughout the nation.

We’re asking for $300,000. That includes the price of artists, security, equipment, and vendors. If desired, your company can participate in vending. Your sponsorship will benefit your company; larger, more established corporations that get involved with local events will be sending a message to the attendees that they are genuinely interested in providing support. There are 5,705 students currently enrolled at Alabama State University. The university is 69% women and 39% men. Women are the most prominent of consumers. Our school is a HBCU, a historically black college/university; therefore the majority ethnicity is Black. The university is 92.23% Black and 7.77% other races. That gives you an idea of the audience your company will reach. We plan to have up to 10,000 guests in attendance at the concert. Companies that show generosity for our cause will spark more human interest and appeal to this audience. All events have their own marketing efforts to make sure the event is well attend and generally successful. If sponsors decide to be involved your company will automatically get the benefit of being promoted throughout the process. Your sponsorship will provide extended exposure and visibility in markets you may have not tapped into yet.

The founders of "The City," Donna Thomas and Noni Gogins, began to think of ways the organization could benefit both the cities of Chicago and Montgomery; both cities' gun violence rates are high and threatening to those within the community. After deep thought, the Worthy & Willing Stop the Violence Foundation came to mind. Like many citizens of Chicago, both Donna and Noni's families have been affected by gun violence. Antonio "Fatz" Davis, Donna's cousin, was a 14-year-old boy who was shot to death on June 22, 2012 in the South Side Hamilton Park neighborhood of Chicago. Noni's cousin, Andre "Dre Mattic" Johnson Jr. was a 29-year-old man who was shot to death on November 2, 2014 in the West Englewood neighborhood of Chicago. The name Antonio means Worthy of Praise. The name Mattic means Willing. Those names were put together to create the name of our soon to be foundation: Worthy & Willing Stop the Violence Foundation. “Young lives are Worthy and we are Willing to advocate."

That foundation will be driven by the pain, sorrow, and longing for our lost loved ones. No family should suffer the burdens of a loved one's unexpected death, nor should they suffer the financial burden of righteously burying them. The goal of this foundation is to create a safe haven for the children and teens of Chicago and Montgomery. We plan to eventually spread our efforts across the nation. We hope to build campuses containing daycare/learning facilities, mentoring programs, college preparation workshops, artistic enhancement programs and even sports centers!

 Noni and I have magnanimous goals for our communities of color. We attended Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. College Prepatory High school so the aiding in the prosperity of the human race is embedded in our hearts. We believe that through hard work and dedication those goals will be accomplished. But, we need your help. Please donate to this cause to help us better our beloved cities, consequently creating better states, and eventually a better nation.

Enthusiastically yours,

Donna A. Thomas

Senior at Alabama State University

President of The City

(312) 758-9296

Thecityalasu@gmail.com

"Faith is taking the first step even when you don't see the whole staircase." - Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.