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SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3204

September 9, 2008

Mr. Marco Boglione
Chairman
BASICNET SPA
Largo Maurizio Vitale 1
10152 Turin
ITALY

Dear Mr. Boglione:

As your company is a leading sponsor of the Serbian Basketball Federation and is also headquartered or conducts business in the United States, you may already know that Miladin Kovacevic, a fugitive wanted in the brutal assault of an American citizen, has reportedly signed a contract to play with the KK (Kosarkoski Klub) Vrbas basketball club in Vrbas, Serbia. In response to this troubling development, I urge you to remove your sponsorship or any association with the Serbian Basketball Federation.

Please consider the following background on the Kovacevic case. On May 4th, Mr. Kovacevic assaulted an American citizen and New York resident, Bryan Steinhauer, and was subsequently charged with one count of Assault in the First Degree and one count of Gang Assault in the First Degree. Mr. Steinhauer suffered multiple fractures on both sides of his face and skull, deep bruising and bleeding to his brain, and is in the process of emerging from a coma caused by the attack.

Despite being ordered by a judge not to leave the United States under any circumstances, aided and abetted by a now incarcerated Serbian Vice Consul, Mr. Kovacevic fled the United States on June 9th and returned to Serbia, where he remains. An Interpol warrant has been issued for Mr. Kovacevic and he is considered an international fugitive.

Despite efforts by the U.S. government and the Steinhauer family, Mr. Kovacevic refuses to return voluntarily to the United States to face trial for his crimes. To add insult to the Steinhauer family injury, Mr. Kovacevic has invited press to view him publicly training and working out with the KK Vrbas basketball club.

I urge you to use your influence as a leading sponsor of Serbian basketball to urge the Federation to not allow Mr. Kovacevic to play basketball for one of its teams, thereby furthering the injury to the Steinhauer Family and sullying the reputation of the Serbian Basketball Federation. Should Mr. Kovacevic continue to associate himself in any way with Serbian National League, I urge you to remove your sponsorship or any association with the Serbian Basketball Federation.

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Thank you for your attention to this important matter. I look forward to your timely response.

Sincerely,

Hillary Rodham Clinton

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