TO FORMER HOUSTON CHAPTER OF THE BLACK PANTHER PARTY AND THE NATIONAL BLACK PANTHER PARTY ALUMNI

Ever since the closing moments of the Celebration held in my honor on March 17, 2007, I have thought about phrases that I might use to express what this event meant to me.

Up to this time, I can only say that mere words cannot say what I felt that night and what I feel every time I think about that great occasion.

However, I must say "THANK YOU". This event outranks any other event of my life. Some other events, such as passing the Texas Bar, winning my first case, and getting married to my present wife, involved only me and a few other people. But the March 17th affair involved me, all of you who were present and several others who for whatever reason weren't in attendance but were remembered as well. The beautifully choreographed presentation carried me back down memory lane for a period of over forty years and greatly moved me, knowing that during this period, I had played a part in your life and that part was of such a nature that you returned and said "We still thank you. We still love you. We still appreciate you."

I give special thanks and appreciation to Brother Boko for that wonderful painting. It hangs in my front office and each day it reaffirms my faith and belief that I have in you. And the beautiful plaque hangs right next to it. Over the past forty years, somewhere along the way, each of you has played a role in attempting to make some change in our society. And yet today, we realize that there is still much to be done. I trust that we all will use the Riverside Terrace Café event on March 17, 2007, as a reaffirmation of our determination to continue to fight to make this world a better place to live for those who come after us.

Cathy and I both want to say a heartfelt "Thanks" for the lovely gifts of baskets of fruit and spirits and the flowers, as well as all the effort that was necessary to put it all together.

This historical moment has been preserved through the video taping and photos that were made by some of the attendees and allow us to re-live that elegant celebration.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Sincerely, Bobby H. Caldwell, the People's Lawyer