

Players Coalition Backgrounder

Below is background on the scope of work both co-founders Anquan Boldin and Malcolm Jenkins have been focused on (Anquan since October 2015 (<http://www.cnn.com/2015/10/21/us/florida-officer-corey-jones-shooting/index.html>) and Malcolm since July 2016 - <http://6abc.com/sports/eagles-players-meet-with-police-to-see-solutions/1437155/>).

It is important to note the timing of this as they and other players such as Doug Baldwin have been quietly pushing for very specific changes to our criminal justice system long before this was a national news story. Below are some highlights of this work, with a focus on impacting police accountability/transparency, mass incarceration, juvenile life without parole, Clean Slate laws and bail reform, in addition to police relations/community engagement and education/economic advancement to address racial equality and social justice.

July 21, 2016

Meeting with Philadelphia Police Commissioner & Department

After the high profile shootings of Alton Sterling and Philando Castile, Malcolm Jenkins invites other concerned players to meet with the Philadelphia Police Commissioner to learn how the police department is structured, and how the players can get involved in building trust with the community. Jason Kelce, Jordan Matthews and others join Jenkins. <http://6abc.com/sports/eagles-players-meet-with-police-to-see-solutions/1437155/>

October 4, 2016

Ride-Along with Philadelphia Police

Malcolm Jenkins conducts a ride-along with Philadelphia police to learn more about their day to day jobs and engage in how players can help build trust.

https://sports.vice.com/en_us/article/3dgxnj/national-anthem-protestor-malcolm-jenkins-goes-on-a-ride-along-with-philly-pd-trailer

November 15, 2016

Capitol Hill Visit

Anquan invites four fellow NFL players, Malcolm Jenkins, Glover Quin, Josh McCown and Andrew Hawkins to a series of bi-partisan meetings on Capitol Hill to discuss ways to strengthen our criminal justice system.

http://www.espn.com/nfl/story/_/id/18053552/nfl-players-headed-capitol-hill-talk-police-relations-race-issues-meet-paul-ryan

November 21, 2016

Washington State Capitol

Doug Baldwin visits the Washington State Capitol to address deadly police force policies

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/sports/nfl/seahawks/2016/11/21/doug-baldwin-deadly-force-police-seattle/94247096/>

December 12, 2016

Philadelphia Police Athletic League joins The Malcolm Jenkins Foundation to provide 140 turkeys and meals to low-income families. Malcolm Jenkins and Rodney McLeod along with PAL deliver baskets and toys to families in inner city Philadelphia.

http://www.philly.com/philly/sports/eagles/20161218_Jenkins_backs_up_anthem_gesture_with_action_to_raise_awareness.html

January 28, 2017

Temple University Panel

Malcolm participated on a 5-person panel discussion that concluded Temple's Black Lives Matter Week.

<https://theundefeated.com/features/eagles-malcolm-jenkins-is-committed-to-teaching-others-about-black-lives-matter/>

January 31, 2017

Sen. Booker Conference call

Malcolm held a conference call with Senator Cory Booker's office to discuss potential collaborative efforts around criminal justice reform.

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Feb 3, 2017

Town Hall led by RISE (Ross Initiative in Sports for Equity)

Thirteen NFL activist players joined the panel, which was streamed live on SiriusXM and Facebook Live, to push the racial equality conversation forward and set an example for their fan bases. RISE also released its report on athlete activism in 2016 live at the Town Hall. Many members of the Players Coalition, including Anquan Boldin, Malcolm Jenkins, Andrew Hawkins, Josh McCown among others participated in the panel entitled "From Protest to Progress" regarding the NFL players' social activism for criminal justice reform. The group honored the SE Texas Oilers at the conclusion of the event. More on Oilers below. Also during Super Bowl Week, Jenkins is honored by the NFLPA with the Byron "Whizzer" White Award for exemplary community service. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZJ_NtMdl-zs

During Super Bowl week, the players decided the need to form a "Players Coalition" and began recruiting more members.

February 10, 2017

UPenn Law Symposium

Malcolm participated in the University of Pennsylvania Law School Symposium, "Hate Crime vs. Hate Speech: Exploring the First Amendment". Jenkins gave the keynote speech.

February 13, 2017

Players Coalition Call

Routinely, Malcolm Jenkins and Anquan Boldin organize calls to engage with other NFL players interested in getting involved with criminal justice reform. Planning begins for March visit to Capitol Hill.

March 3, 2017

Graterford Prison Visit/PA Meetings

Malcolm and Eagles teammate Steven Means visited the Graterford Prison for a tour and sit-down with inmates, had lunch meeting with Bill Cobb/ACLU-National (and former Graterford inmate), and met with grassroots organizations for a round table in Philadelphia to discuss the current issues, including The Center for Returning Citizens, Youth Art & Self-Empowerment Project and The Coalition to Abolish Death by Incarceration. <http://thephiladelphiacitizen.org/week-9-malcolm-jenkins-criminal-justice-season/>

March 30, 2017

Testimony in front of the House Judiciary Committee: Policing and Minority Communities

[Anquan Boldin](#) and [Malcolm Jenkins](#) took part in a congressional forum on ways to improve community-police relations and the criminal justice system. They shared their first-hand experiences with Congress and outlined efforts to build greater trust among police and minority communities.

<https://www.c-span.org/video/?426232-1/nfl-players-say-police-front-lines-broken-justice-system>

June 22, 2017

Members of Players Coalition donate to SE Oilers football team

Malcolm Jenkins, Anquan Boldin, Devin McCourty and Torrey Smith from the Coalition donate \$20k to the football team to replace the football equipment and resources needed after the team was dismissed from their league for protesting for human rights.

http://www.espn.com/nfl/story/_/id/19706657/nfl-player-coalition-donates-20000-help-former-beaumont-bulls-start-a-new-southeast-texas-oilers-anthem-protest-fallout

June 26, 2017

Hashtag Sports Conference in NYC

Malcolm Jenkins appeared on panel for social activism.

<https://innovate.hashtagsports.com/malcolm-jenkins-were-not-going-to-change-the-world-overnight-7ee4c2f46c63>

July 6, 2017

Players Coalition / Call-to-Action for Sen Cory Booker's PRIDE Act

Malcolm, Anquan and other NFL players in the Coalition participate in an effort to call legislators and post on social media around Sen. Cory Booker's PRIDE Act to draw awareness and get support for the bill around police accountability/transparency.

<http://www.nydailynews.com/sports/football/13-nfl-players-called-members-congress-thursday-article-1.3309362>

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August 20, 2017

Anquan Boldin retires to focus on criminal justice reform and racial equality efforts for the Coalition

<http://abcnews.go.com/Sports/anquan-boldin-retirement-lifes-purpose-bigger-football/story?id=49328245>

September 1, 2017

Jenkins hosts MenzFit benefit

Malcolm Jenkins, Anquan Boldin, Rodney McLeod, Steven Means and other Eagles players come out to support Jenkins' new initiative with MenzFit, a non-profit organization that provides professional clothing and career resources for low-income men, many of which are formerly incarcerated.

http://www.espn.com/blog/nflnation/post/_id/247037/malcolm-jenkins-works-to-lift-stigma-via-fashion-show-models

September 12, 2017

Philadelphia Listen & Learn Tour

Malcolm Jenkins, Chris Long, Torrey Smith and Rodney McLeod host Eagles owner Jeffrey Lurie and NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell on a Listen & Learn tour in Philadelphia on the issues around criminal justice reform.

<http://www.philadelphiaeagles.com/news/article-1/Eagles-Roger-Goodell-Come-Together-To-Gain-Perspective-On-Criminal-Justice-Reform/a3ed50b7-458a-4612-a44a-ee9f4a5e34d7>

September 19, 2017

Chris Long donates game checks to fund scholarships

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/early-lead/wp/2017/09/19/eagles-chris-long-donates-salary-from-six-nfl-games-to-fund-scholarships-in-charlottesville/?utm_term=.6700e7739420

September 27, 2017

CNN Town Hall / National Press

Malcolm Jenkins, Doug Baldwin and Michael Bennett participate in a CNN Town Hall following the comments from the President on the protests. Anquan Boldin joins the players efforts among others to do multiple national interviews in TIME Magazine, MSNBC, New York Times, ESPN, Sports Illustrated and many others addressing the work and commitment they are making in criminal justice reform, education and economic advancement.

<http://www.cnn.com/2017/09/27/politics/cnn-nfl-kneeling-protests-town-hall-ac360/index.html>

October 17, 2017

Doug Baldwin and Roger Goodell co-sign a letter in support of criminal justice reform.

http://www.espn.com/nfl/story/_id/21050637/nfl-commissioner-roger-goodell-seattle-seahawks-wr-doug-baldwin-support-bill-seeks-criminal-justice-reform

October 18, 2017

Chris Long donates entire season game checks to charity

<https://www.si.com/nfl/2017/10/18/eagles-chris-long-donate-salary-education-charity>

October 24, 2017

Players visit Harrisburg state capitol and Detroit Listen & Learn

Malcolm Jenkins, Chris Long and Torrey Smith visit state capitol in Harrisburg to lobby for Clean Slate laws and other criminal justice reform. In Detroit, Anquan Boldin, Don Carey and Deandre Levy conduct a Listen and Learn Tour on bail reform and juvenile life without parole.

http://www.espn.com/nfl/story/_id/21139673/players-head-pennsylvania-capitol-lobby-criminal-justice-reform

Philadelphia Citizen

Each week, Malcolm Jenkins contributes an article on criminal justice reform for the Philadelphia Citizen.

<http://thephiladelphiacitizen.org/week-13-malcolm-jenkins-criminal-justice-season/>

Op-Eds

Many players have contributed to Op-Eds on a variety of topics for the legislation they are trying to be made a priority. Below is a sampling of their contributions.

June 6, 2017 CNN: <http://www.cnn.com/2017/06/06/opinions/nfl-players-criminal-justice-sessions-opinion/index.html>

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June 13, 2017 - Columbus Dispatch: <http://www.dispatch.com/opinion/20170613/letter-filling-up-prison-isnt-answer>

September 30, 2017 - Washington Post - https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/what-protesting-nfl-players-like-me-want-to-do-next/2017/09/30/507fc4b0-a513-11e7-b14f-f41773cd5a14_story.html?utm_term=.33ce91ff1cc8

October 16, 2017 - CNN - <http://www.cnn.com/2017/10/16/opinions/nfl-bail-reform-opinion/index.html>

October 26, 2017 - Time Magazine - <http://time.com/4997977/anquan-boldin-why-nfl-players-protest/>

November 14, 2017 - Time Magazine – Stan Van Gundy - <http://time.com/5016104/stan-van-gundy-nfl-protests/>