I BELIEVE THIS IS THE SECOND YEAR IN A ROW THAT I AM INTRODUCED BY THE LEGENDARY AHMAD RASHAD...

THIS IS BECOMING A BIT OF A TRADITION, SO I THANK YOU FOR THAT!

IT'S TRULY A PLEASURE TO BE IN THE PRESENCE OF SO MANY CHAMPIONS AND LEGENDS THIS MORNING...

AND I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR BEING HERE.

NBA COMMISSIONER SILVER, A BIG THANK YOU TO YOU FOR ALL THAT NBA CARES IS DOING IN OUR COMMUNITY.

WE ALSO HAVE A DIFFERENT KIND OF COMMISSIONER, COUNTY COMMISSIONER AUDREY EDMONSON WHO REPRESENTS THIS AREA AND WHO HAS BEEN VERY SUPPORTIVE OF THESE EFFORTS IN HER DISTRICT.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER JEAN MONESTIME AND CITY OF MIAMI MAYOR TOMAS REGALADO ARE ALSO WITH US.

AND OF COURSE, I MUST RECOGNIZE THE PRESENCE OF “BERNIE” THE MIAMI HEAT MASCOT…

AND “BANANA MAN” WHO HAS ALSO COME TO BE HERE WITH US THIS MORNING.

DEAR FRIENDS…

LET ME START BY THANKING ALL OF YOU FOR JOINING US AS WE DEDICATE THE NBA CARES LEARN & PLAY CENTER HERE AT THE LITTLE HAITI CULTURAL CENTER.

I THINK WE’VE ALL LOST OUR VOICES A BIT FROM YELLING DURING LAST NIGHT’S GAME.

AND PERHAPS WE’RE ALL A LITTLE SLEEPY AS WELL…

BUT IT’S NOTHING OUR WORLD FAMOUS CUBAN COFFEE CAN’T FIX.

WE’RE EXCITED TO BE HERE THIS MORNING TO CELEBRATE A VICTORY FOR THE CHILDREN OF OUR COMMUNITY.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY IS PROUD TO HOST THE NBA FINALS FOR THE FOURTH YEAR IN A ROW.

AND WE'RE PROUD OF THE CHAMPIONSHIP ATTITUDE THAT OUR MIAMI HEAT EXHIBITS ON THE COURT...

AND HOW THAT ATTITUDE IS EXPRESSED OFF THE COURT AS WELL.

IT IS AN ATTITUDE OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT ENCOURAGED BY THE NBA AND ONE THAT IS SEEN IN EVERY CITY WHERE THE NBA HAS A FRANCHISE.

HERE IN MIAMI, THE HEAT ARE EVERYWHERE!

THROUGH THE HEAT ACADEMY, THE HEAT FOUNDATION, THE HEAT SCHOLARSHIPS...

AND THROUGH THEIR RANDOM ACTS OF HEAT.

OUR MIAMI HEAT ARE TRUE CHAMPIONS OF OUR COMMUNITY!

AND TODAY IS NO DIFFERENT.

AS PART OF THE FINALS 2014, NBA CARES AND THE MIAMI HEAT ARE OPENING THIS NEW NBA CARES LEARN & PLAY CENTER.

AND THEY DO SO IN THE LITTLE HAITI CULTURAL CENTER...

A PLACE WHOSE MISSION IS TO BRING TOGETHER PEOPLE AND IDEAS TO PROMOTE, SHOWCASE AND SUPPORT AFRO-CARIBBEAN CULTURE IN SOUTH FLORIDA...

AND A PLACE THAT SHOWS THE RICH DIVERSITY OF WHO WE ARE AS A COMMUNITY.

LET ME ALSO POINT OUT THAT THE WORDS "LEARN" AND "PLAY" ARE USED TOGETHER, BECAUSE LEARNING SHOULD BE FUN.

AND AS I LOOK AROUND THE CENTER, I KNOW THAT THE CHILDREN OF OUR COMMUNITY NOW HAVE ANOTHER PLACE WHERE THEY CAN EXPLORE A WHOLE NEW WORLD OF LEARNING AND FUN.

THIS IS WHAT NBA CARES DOES.

SINCE OCTOBER 2005 WHEN NBA CARES WAS LAUNCHED...

THE LEAGUE AND TEAMS HAVE RAISED MORE THAN $237 MILLION FOR CHARITY...

PROVIDED MORE THAN 3 MILLION HOURS OF HANDS-ON SERVICE...

AND BUILT MORE THAN 895 PLACES WHERE KIDS AND FAMILIES CAN LIVE, LEARN OR PLAY IN COMMUNITIES AROUND THE WORLD.

COMMISSIONER SILVER…

YOU, THE NBA, AND THE MIAMI HEAT ALL DESERVE A BIG ROUND OF APPLAUSE FOR THE WORK YOU DO TO MAKE OUR COMMUNITIES BETTER.

BEFORE I HAND IT OVER TO COMMISSIONER SILVER, I'D LIKE FOR BERNIE, BANANA MAN AND ALL OF YOU HERE TO JOIN ME IN ONE BIG LET'S GO HEAT!

ON THE COUNT OF THREE…

1 – 2 – 3 –

LET'S GO HEAT!!!

AND NOW, NBA COMMISSIONER ADAM SILVER.