



For Immediate Release

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BEN MONTGOMERY – TWO TIME SUPER BOWL OFFICIAL HONORED

Association recognizes outstanding former Line Judge, Umpire and union leader

Today the National Football League Referees Association (NFLRA) announced the selection of Benjamin (Ben) Montgomery – former NFL Line Judge & Umpire and NFLRA Secretary & Vice President – as its 2016 Annual Honoree. The Honoree award recognizes an NFL official's outstanding career – both on the field and in support of the NFLRA. Montgomery will be honored in April at the NFLRA's 2016 Annual Membership Meeting & Awards Banquet.

Montgomery had an outstanding 22-year NFL officiating career. He joined the NFL officiating staff in 1982 as a Line Judge and was assigned number "117." Montgomery moved to the Umpire position in 1985 and returned to the line judge position in 1993, where he remained until his retirement at the conclusion of the 2003 season. His numerous postseason NFL assignments included the Pro Bowl, thirteen Wild Card and Divisional games, three Conference Championships and Super Bowls XXXII and XXXVIII. Montgomery continues to serve the football officiating community as an officiating trainer for the NFL and several collegiate conferences.

Montgomery's long-time service to his fellow NFL officials included serving as the NFLRA's Secretary from 1994 to 1999, and as its Vice President from 1999 to 2002. He was a key member of the NFLRA's leadership team for two collective bargaining agreements, the second during the first "lock-out" of Game Officials during the 2001 season.

While successfully pursuing an undergraduate degree in mathematics, Montgomery played both varsity football and basketball for Morehouse College. Following graduation, he enjoyed a 47-year career in secondary education as a math teacher, assistant principal, principal, administrator and manager of facilities and administrative services. He also earned a master's degree in education administration from Xavier University.

Montgomery received the NFL's prestigious Art McNally Award in 2003. He was honored in 1990 by the Atlanta Extra Point Club, Inc. with the Aaron Watson Community Service Award and the 2008 Award of Valor Living Legend by The Pigskin Club of Washington DC. He and his wife, Bettie, reside in Fort Washington, Maryland and have three adult children and four grandchildren.

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About the National Football League Referees Association (NFLRA)

The NFLRA is the sole and exclusive bargaining representative for all Game and Replay Officials of the National Football League. Governed by a Board of Directors elected by its membership and an Executive Director, the NFLRA also supports the advancement of the officiating profession at all levels as well as numerous charitable activities.

For additional information please contact Jim Quirk, NFLRA Executive Director at 732-747-8834 or via email at NFLumpire@aol.com.