

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THE NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER TO DISPLAY SIGNED CONTRACTS OF BASEBALL LEGEND AND CIVIL RIGHTS ADVOCATE JACKIE ROBINSON FOR A LIMITED TIME

Contracts to be on display from May 26-June 5, 2016

Philadelphia, PA (May 19, 2016) – The historic documents that led to the breaking of baseball’s color barrier will be on display at the National Constitution Center for a limited time only next Thursday, May 26 through Sunday, June 5.

The documents will arrive in Philadelphia as part of the Collectors Cafe Freedom Tour, less than two months after the Philadelphia City Council passed a resolution apologizing for the racism Robinson experienced during his visit to the city in 1947.

On April 11, 1947, Jack Roosevelt Robinson signed a contract with the Brooklyn Dodgers, leading to the integration of Major League Baseball. This contract, in addition to the contract he signed in 1945 when he joined the minor league team the Montreal Royals, will be on display at the National Constitution Center.

Jackie Robinson (1919–1972) became the first African American to play major league baseball after Brooklyn Dodgers President Branch Rickey chose him to integrate baseball. Facing antagonism both on and off the field—from fans, opposing teams, and even initially his own teammates—Robinson displayed astounding fortitude and dazzled the crowds on the field and at bat during his first season with the Dodgers, earning the first-ever Rookie of the Year Award. He retired with a career batting average of .311, 1,518 hits, 137 home runs, 734 RBIs, and 197 stolen bases and was elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame on the first ballot in his first year of eligibility (1962).

The documents are on loan to the National Constitution Center from Collectors Cafe, courtesy of founder and CEO Mykalai Kontilai.

About Collectors Cafe

Collectors Cafe is the new integrated social network and auction house for collectors. Collectors Cafe is revolutionizing the collectibles marketplace by providing Authenticity Insurance Policies to consumers underwritten by leading insurers Lloyds of London (Hiscox), AIG, Liberty Mutual, Chubb & C.V Starr for all collectibles sold by the Company. To learn more, visit the Jackie Robinson Experience at: www.collectorscafe.com.

About the National Constitution Center

The [National Constitution Center](http://www.constitutioncenter.org) in Philadelphia inspires active citizenship as the only place where people across America and around the world can come together to learn about, debate, and celebrate the greatest vision of human freedom in history, the U.S. Constitution. A private, nonprofit organization, the Center serves as America’s leading platform for constitutional education and debate, fulfilling its Congressional charter “to disseminate information about the U.S. Constitution on a non-partisan basis.”

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As the **Museum of We the People**, the Center brings the Constitution to life for visitors of all ages through interactive programs and exhibits. As **America's Town Hall**, the Center brings the leading conservative and liberal thought leaders together to debate the Constitution on all media platforms. As a center for **Civic Education**, the Center delivers the best educational programs and online resources that inspire, excite, and engage citizens about the U.S. Constitution. For more information, call 215-409-6700 or visit constitutioncenter.org.

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