

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## COLLEGE FOOTBALL ASSISTANCE FUND MAKES GRANT TO TULANE FOOTBALL PLAYER DEVON WALKER AND URGES SUPPORT

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September 10, 2012 (Tulsa, OK) – Tulane University Football Player Devon Walker sustained a cervical spine fracture while making a tackle on the final play of the first half during Saturday's Green Wave road game against Tulsa in H.A. Chapman Stadium. The senior is currently at St. Francis Hospital in Tulsa, OK where he is in stable condition. He is recovering from a three hour surgery to stabilize his spine and he will remain in the ICU for several days.

Devon is a Cell and Molecular Biology Major who earned a football scholarship after walking on to the team in 2009. Walker, who was the Tulane starting safety, had the best game of his career last week in their season opener against Rutgers, recording a team-high nine tackles.

Today, **The College Football Assistance Fund (CFAF)** announced that a grant of \$10,000.00 will be made to the Devon Walker Fund to help defray medical costs and provide assistance to his family during this difficult time.

According to the National Spinal Cord Injury Center, the average first year expenses for a cervical spine fracture may exceed over \$800,000.00.

"On behalf of the CFAF Board of Directors, we are pleased to announce a grant to the Devon Walker Fund," said Coach June Jones. "We are encouraging everyone to support this young man in need by contributing directly to Devon, or by making a gift to CFAF which will support Devon and other injured college football players."

Tulane University has created a "Support for Devon Walker" website for prayer offerings, donations & updates (<a href="http://tulane.edu/devonwalker/index.cfm">http://tulane.edu/devonwalker/index.cfm</a>). Donations can also be made to The College Football Assistance Fund in support of Devon by visiting <a href="https://www.CFAFund.org">www.CFAFund.org</a>.

"We thank the College Football Assistance Fund for being among the first to donate to the Devon Walker Fund. Their gift is more than a donation – it is indicative of the care and concern of the entire college football community. I have no doubt others in the college football community will follow their lead in helping to defray expenses for Devon and his family," said Rick Dickson, Tulane Athletics Director.

## **ABOUT CFAF**

The College Football Assistance Fund is a non-profit organization dedicated to support those who have sustained serious injuries through college football. Assistance is provided to ease the burden of medical costs associated with injuries such as joint replacement, spine treatment, neurological care and other related expenses.

The CFAF was established in 2010 by a group of collegiate coaches and athletic administrators concerned about the limited resources available to injured football players. Major donors include some of today's top college football coaches and bowls.

For more information about CFAF, please visit www.CFAFund.org.