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**City of Beverly Hills Community Services Department
Welcomes Willie E. West, Jr., Legendary Crenshaw High School Basketball Coach
to BevWood Basketball Camp**

16 Time LA City Basketball Championship Coach Gives Back

Beverly Hills, Calif. – City of Beverly Hills Community Services Department is excited to announce that legendary Crenshaw High Basketball Coach Willie E. West, Jr. will attend the final week of BevWood Basketball camp from July 23-July 27, to be a guest mentor and speaker. Hearing from West gives campers an opportunity to understand how hard work and true grit led to attaining 16 basketball championships, and how important it is to mentor and give back to the community. BevWood Basketball Camp is directed by owner Bill Smith and has been offered through the Beverly Hills Community Services Department's summer camp program for 25 years.

Bill Smith, director of BevWood Basketball Camp and K-8 Education Specialist at El Rodeo Elementary School, announced he is bringing his high school mentor and former Crenshaw High Coach, Willie E. West, Jr., to share his basketball knowledge and stories with the next generation. West will regale the campers, boys and girls, ages 5-13, with stories of the struggles and successes he experienced during his celebrated career and emphasize the importance of skills, teamwork and respect on the court and off.

West coached at Crenshaw for 37 years, from 1970 to 2007. West's incredible record of 1,040 wins against a mere 140 losses, culminated in 16 LA City Titles, 8 California State Titles and one World Championship in 1985. He coached 11 players who made it all the way to the NBA, including Marques Johnson, John Williams, Stevie Thompson, Robert Smith and Darwin Cook. He also coached 5 MLB stars including Darryl Strawberry, Ellis Valentine and Chris Brown. West is a 2018 nominee for inclusion in the Naismith Hall of Fame.

BevWood Basketball Camp not only provides basketball skills training and games, but there's constant entertainment from Smith's legion of characters like Dr. Woozala and the Duke of Dribble who teach the kids the fundamentals of basketball and trips to Dodgers Stadium, LA Sparks games and the camper's favorite, the Water Olympics.

The City of Beverly Hills summer camp programs are available from June through August. For more information, go to www.beverlyhills.org/bhrec, or call 310-285-6850.