



# PRESS RELEASE

## Respect My Vote! Spokesperson 2 Chainz Talks Voting Rights With Cleveland Ex-Offenders.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Cleveland, OH May 23, 2012**, the non-partisan Hip Hop Caucus, Respect My Vote! Campaign aims to mobilize, educate, and engage young people, ages 18 to 40, on the social, issues that directly impact their lives and communities. It is crucial to get the correct information out to ex-offenders because there are so many myths when it comes to ex-offenders voting rights but the campaign seeks to set the record straight. When Def Jam recording artist 2 Chainz became a spokesperson for the Respect My Vote! Campaign there was no question as to how he would use his platform to educate and stimulate voters. After learning that his voting rights were restored after his sentence was served, 2 Chainz deemed it his responsibility to pass the voting rights information directly to other ex-offenders. “When I realized I could vote, it was a major moment. I really tripped over the fact that I could vote. It meant I had another chance. It meant I had a say in the course of this country.” explained 2 Chainz.

In Ohio, individuals incarcerated for a felony conviction are ineligible to vote. Voting rights are automatically restored upon release from prison, and people on parole or probation can vote and ex-offenders should re-register to vote. The Hip Hop Caucus Cleveland in partnership with Z107.9 is enthused to have an event that will assist in breaking the silence and activating an audience that is often unheard due to misinformation when it comes to their voting rights. 2 Chainz will host a private event where he will speak with ex-offenders from the Greater Cleveland Reentry Leadership Coalition. It is essential to inform individuals on their voting rights so those that are eligible to vote do so.

**Monday, May 28, 2012 1:30pm—4pm**  
**10723 Magnolia Drive Cleveland, OH 44106**

In addition the Hip Hop Caucus Cleveland would like to thank you for your continued support. Interview request are welcomed and encouraged, please contact us for any questions or additional information! For additional information please visit [www.hiphopcaucus.org](http://www.hiphopcaucus.org)

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