

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DURHAM COUNTY

IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE
SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION
26CV000605-310

DUKE UNIVERSITY,
Plaintiff,
v.
DARIAN MENSAH,
Defendant.

AFFIDAVIT OF DARIAN MENSAH

Darian Mensah, being first duly sworn, deposes and says as follows:

1. I am more than eighteen years of age, and all statements in this affidavit are based on my personal knowledge, except as otherwise indicated.
2. I submit this affidavit in support of the Emergency Motion to Reconsider the Temporary Restraining Order.
3. I am the named Defendant in the above-captioned matter filed by Duke University.
4. Around 6:13 p.m. on Monday, January 19, 2026, which was the Martin Luther King, Jr., holiday, my agent received notice of several pleadings to be filed by Duke University, including a Motion for a Temporary Retraining Order and notification that the hearing on the Motion for a Temporary Restraining Order would be conducted the very next day on January 20, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. in Durham County Superior Court.
5. I was able to secure legal counsel in North Carolina to represent me at the hearing late in the evening on January 20, 2026.
6. Counsel appeared on my behalf at the hearing on the Motion for a Temporary Retraining Order and opposed the Motion.
7. I understand the Court entered its oral ruling granting the Temporary Restraining Order at

the conclusion of the hearing, and I have reviewed the written Temporary Restraining Order issued by the Court on January 21, 2026.

8. I understand the Temporary Restraining Order, among other things, enjoins me from "enrolling at another collegiate institution."
9. After the hearing and as part of my efforts to comply with the Temporary Restraining Order, an agent on my behalf communicated this restriction to other collegiate institutions who have indicated to me their interest in my enrollment and playing football.
10. After the hearing, I learned for the first time that enrollment deadlines at other collegiate institutions who have indicated to me their interest in my enrollment will expire on Friday, January 23, 2026.
11. I was not informed at any time prior to the hearing on the Temporary Restraining Order on Tuesday, January 20, 2026, of the enrollment deadlines at other collegiate institutions who have indicated to me their interest in my enrollment, and this information was not known to me or counsel who appeared for me at the hearing on the Temporary Restraining Order.
12. I understand that if I miss the enrollment deadlines at other collegiate institutions then I could be permanently foreclosed from the opportunity to do so.

Further affiant sayeth not.

This, the 22nd day of January, 2026.


Darian Mensah

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED before me
this the 22 day of January, 2026.

Vandana Dhingra
30 September 2029, Notary Public
My Commission Expires:

