

1 over number one seed Virginia Tech by a score of 79-72; and

2 WHEREAS, with the victory over Virginia Tech, the Tigers advanced to the national
3 championship game for the first time in school history to tangle with the Hawkeyes from
4 Iowa; and

5 WHEREAS, the Tigers' championship game victory on Sunday, April 2, 2023, was
6 the highest rated womens college basketball game in television history with an average of
7 9.9 million viewers, peaking at 12.6 million viewers; and

8 WHEREAS, many sports writers are calling the LSU-Iowa championship a
9 "game-changing" event in the history of womens college basketball; and

10 WHEREAS, the national champion Tigers consist of the following players:

11 (1) Sophomore forward Angel Reese from Baltimore, Maryland - All-Tournament
12 Team and Tournament Most Outstanding Player, AP First Team All-American, First Team
13 All-SEC, and SEC All-Defensive Team;

14 (2) Fifth-year senior guard Alexis Morris from Beaumont, Texas- All-Tournament
15 Team and First Team All-SEC;

16 (3) Graduate student guard Jasmine Carson from Memphis,
17 Tennessee-All-Tournament Team;

18 (4) Freshman guard Flau'jae Johnson from Savannah, Georgia - SEC Freshman of
19 the Year and SEC All Freshman Team;

20 (5) Freshman forward Sa'Myah Smith from DeSoto, Texas - SEC All Freshman
21 Team;

22 (6) Graduate student forward LaDazhia Williams from Bradenton, Florida;

23 (7) Senior forward Emily Ward from Bossier City, Louisiana;

24 (8) Sophomore forward Amani Bartlett from Cleveland, Texas;

25 (9) Sophomore guard Last-Tear Poa from Melbourne, Australia;

26 (10) Sophomore guard Kateri Poole from Bronx, New York;

27 (11) Freshman guard Izzy Besselman from Baton Rouge, Louisiana;

28 (12) Freshman forward Alisa Williams from Denton, Texas; and

29 WHEREAS, the national championship team was supported by a well-regarded and
30 highly-respected staff, including the following:

- 1 (1) Bob Starkey, associate head coach;
- 2 (2) Daphne Mitchell, assistant coach;
- 3 (3) Gary Redus II, assistant coach;
- 4 (4) Johnny Derrick, assistant athletic director and director of operations;
- 5 (5) Jennifer Roberts, director of player personnel and influence;
- 6 (6) Kaylin Rice, director of womens basketball recruiting;
- 7 (7) Chante' Crutchfield, assistant director for operations and recruiting;
- 8 (8) Joe Schwartz, assistant director for operations;
- 9 (9) Jordin Westbrook, director of operations and special assistant to head coach;
- 10 (10) Renee Braud, administrative coordinator;
- 11 (11) Thomas Lené, assistant strength and conditioning coach;
- 12 (12) Amanda Barbee, associate athletic trainer; and

13 WHEREAS, in 2021, Head Coach Kim Mulkey, a native of Tickfaw, Louisiana,
14 returned home to lead the Tigers as the most decorated, most honored womens college
15 player and coach in the history of the sport, with honors such as: four-time state champion
16 at Hammond High School; class valedictorian at Hammond High School; All-American
17 point guard at Louisiana Tech University (Tech); two-time national champion as a player
18 at Tech; summa cum laude graduate of Tech; winner of the inaugural Frances Pomeroy
19 Naismith Award; gold medalist at the 1983 Pan American Games in Caracas, Venezuela;
20 gold medalist at the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles, California; one national championship
21 as an assistant coach at Tech; three-time national champion as the head coach at Baylor
22 University; nine-time national coach of the year; Class of 1990 inductee into the Louisiana
23 Sports Hall of Fame; Class of 1992 inductee into the Louisiana Tech Athletic Hall of Fame;
24 Class of 2000 inductee into the Womens Basketball Hall of Fame as a player; Class of 2020
25 inductee into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame as a coach; and the only
26 person in college basketball history to win a national championship as a player, assistant
27 coach, and head coach; and

28 WHEREAS, the joy of this incredible season will live in the hearts of LSU fans
29 forever and the Tigers' dominance will set the new standard of excellence in the annals of
30 womens college basketball; and

