FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MINNESOTA VIKINGS SIGN 14 SELECTIONS FROM THE 2020 NFL DRAFT

Vikings' NFL Record 15-Player Draft Class All Under Contract

Eagan, Minn. (July 23, 2020) – The Minnesota Vikings have announced the following roster moves:

DRAFT PICKS SIGNED:

NO.	PLAYER	POS.	RD./SELECTION	COLLEGE
18	Justin Jefferson	WR	1st/22nd	LSU
20	Jeff Gladney	CB	1st/31st	TCU
72	Ezra Cleveland	T	2nd/58th	Boise State
27	Cameron Dantzler	CB	3rd/89th	Mississippi State
57	D.J. Wonnum	DE	4th/117th	South Carolina
66	James Lynch	DT	4th/130th	Baylor
45	Troy Dye	LB	4th/132nd	Oregon
38	Harrison Hand	CB	5th/169th	Temple
17	K.J. Osborn	WR	5th/176th	Miami
64	Blake Brandel	T	6th/203rd	Oregon State
44	Josh Metellus	S	6th/205th	Michigan
79	Kenny Willekes	DE	7th/225th	Michigan State
39	Brian Cole II	S	7th/249th	Mississippi State
68	Kyle Hinton	G	7th/253rd	Washburn

The 14 signees join Minnesota's 244th overall selection **Nate Stanley**, who signed with the club on July 13.

Justin Jefferson (6-1, 202) was selected by the Vikings in the first round of the 2020 NFL Draft with the 22nd overall pick, becoming the first member of Minnesota's 2020 draft class and the first LSU player chosen in the opening round of a draft in Vikings history. Jefferson finished his LSU career ranked No. 5 in receptions (165), No. 6 in receiving yards (2,415) and No. 3 in receiving touchdowns (24), despite not catching a pass as a freshman in 2017. As a junior, the St. Rose, Louisiana, native led the nation in receptions (111) and set both career and CFP Semifinal game records for receptions (14), receiving yards (227), receiving yards in a half (186), and receiving touchdowns (4) in the Tigers' victory over Oklahoma. In 2019, Jefferson became the 10th player in LSU history with more than 2,000 career receiving yards after surpassing the 1,000-yard mark for the season at Ole Miss with a nine-catch, 112-yard and two touchdown performance. He was tabbed Second Team All-SEC and named a semifinalist for the 2019 Biletnikoff Award, which is given annually to the top receiver in college football.

Jeff Gladney (5-10, 191) was selected with the 31st overall pick by the Vikings in the first round of the 2020 NFL Draft and became the first TCU player drafted by Minnesota in the first round. A native of New Boston, Texas, Gladney finished his career as a Horned Frog

with 146 total tackles (106 solo), 38 pass breakups, five interceptions (one for a score), 1.5 sacks, 6.0 tackles for loss and one forced fumble through 50 games (42 starts). Gladney tied for second in the Big 12 as a redshirt senior in 2019 with 15 passes defended, including a conference-best 14 pass breakups which tied for eighth nationally. He capped his collegiate career with Second Team All-America and All-Big 12 honors from multiple outlets in 2019.

Ezra Cleveland (6-6, 311) was selected by Minnesota in the second round (58th overall) of the 2020 NFL Draft. The Spanaway, Washington, native started at left tackle in all 40 of his game appearances over three seasons at Boise State, earning First-Team All-Mountain West honors in 2018 and 2019 and Honorable Mention All-Mountain West recognition in 2017. While at Boise State, Cleveland blocked for current Viking running back Alexander Mattison as Mattison recorded consecutive 1,000-yard rushing seasons in 2018 (1,415 yards) and 2017 (1,086 yards).

Cameron Dantzler (6-2, 188) was selected by Minnesota in the third round (89th overall) of the 2020 NFL Draft. The Hammond, Louisiana, native started the final 22 of his 35 career game appearances at Mississippi State. Dantzler finished his collegiate career with 108 total tackles, five interceptions and 20 passes defended, earning Second-Team All-SEC honors as a sophomore in 2018.

D.J. Wonnum (6-5, 258) was selected by the Vikings 117th overall in the fourth round of the 2020 NFL Draft, becoming the highest drafted defensive end by Minnesota since Danielle Hunter was chosen 88th overall out of LSU in the 2015 NFL Draft. Wonnum appeared in 43 games with 30 starts for South Carolina during his four-year career, logging 137 tackles with 14.0 sacks. He ranks ninth in school history with 29.5 career tackles for loss. Hailing from Stone Mountain, Georgia, Wonnum is a two-time team captain (2017 and 2019) and was named a 2019 Second-Team All-SEC selection by the Associated Press after finishing the 2019 season with 37 tackles, including 9.5 tackles for loss, and 4.5 sacks.

James Lynch (6-4, 289) was selected by Minnesota in the fourth round (130th overall) of the 2020 NFL Draft. The Round Rock, Texas, native appeared in 38 career games (27 starts) in three season at Baylor, leaving campus as the program's career leader in sacks (23.0). Lynch was named First-Team All-America (Walter Camp, USA Today, The Athletic) and Big 12 Defensive Player of the Year as a junior in 2019 after compiling 13.5 sacks (Baylor single-season record) and 19.5 tackles for loss.

Troy Dye (6-3, 231) was selected by Minnesota in the fourth round (132nd overall) of the 2020 NFL Draft. The Norco, California, native made 50 game appearances (48 starts) in four seasons at Oregon, becoming the only player in program history to lead the team in tackles in four consecutive seasons (2016-19). Dye ended his collegiate career with 397 total tackles (third in program history) and 44 tackles for loss (tied fourth in program history).

Harrison Hand (5-11, 197) was chosen with the 169th overall pick in the fifth round of the 2020 NFL Draft, becoming the third of five defensive backs drafted by Minnesota. Hand

compiled 114 total tackles (86 solo), 17 pass breakups, four interceptions, 5.5 tackles for loss and a forced fumble through 34 games during his three combined seasons at Baylor and Temple. As a junior at Temple, the Cherry Hill, New Jersey, native made a career high 59 tackles, including 4.0 tackles for loss, and three interceptions.

K.J. Osborn (5-11, 203) was taken in the fifth round (176th overall) by the Vikings in the 2020 NFL Draft, becoming the 16th player drafted out of Miami in franchise history. Osborn spent the first three season of his collegiate career at Buffalo University before electing to transfer as a graduate to Miami for his final year. As a senior in 2019, Osborn led the Hurricanes in receptions (50), receiving yards (547), receiving touchdowns (5) and all-purpose yards (1,018). The Ypsilanti, Michigan, native also served as the primary punt and kick returner for Miami while leading the team with 16 punt returns and 255 punt return yards in 2019. For his career, Osborn returned 33 kickoffs for 646 yards and a 19.6 average and returned 49 punts for 594 yards and a 12.1 average. During his three seasons on the field in Buffalo (2016-18), Osborn totaled 53 receptions for 892 yards and seven receiving touchdowns.

Blake Brandel (6-7, 307) was selected by Minnesota in the sixth round (203rd overall) of the 2020 NFL Draft. The Milwaukie, Oregon, native started all 48 games in which he appeared at Oregon State, earning Second-Team All-Pac-12 honors as a senior. A team captain as a senior in 2019, Brandel earned a 93.1 pass blocking grade from Pro Football Focus during his final campaign, the best score by any offensive lineman in the nation.

Josh Metellus (5-11, 209) was chosen by Minnesota with the 205th-overall pick in the sixth round of the 2020 NFL Draft. Hailing from Pembroke Pine, Florida, Metellus tallied 187 tackles, including 9.0 tackles for loss, five interceptions, 21 passes defensed and a blocked kick during his four-year career at Michigan. As a senior, he started all 13 games at safety and also contributed on special teams, making 74 tackles, including four for loss, with two interceptions, five pass breakups and one fumble recovery. Metellus is a three-time All-Big Ten honoree (2017-19) and was tabbed a first team All-Big Ten selection by the Associated Press in 2018 after recording 48 tackles, and three interceptions with one returned for a touchdown as a junior.

Kenny Willekes (6-3, 264) was selected by Minnesota in the seventh round (225th overall) of the 2020 NFL Draft. The Rockford, Michigan, native left Michigan State with 51 career tackles for loss (first in school history) and 26.0 career sacks (third in school history) in 40 game appearances (38 starts). Willekes was the 2019 Burlsworth Trophy recipient, given to the nation's most outstanding player that began his career as a walk-on, as well as the 2018 Big Ten Defensive Lineman of the Year and a two-time Walter Camp All-American (second-team in 2018 and 2019).

Brian Cole II (6-2, 213) was selected by Minnesota in the seventh round (249th overall) of the 2020 NFL Draft, the last of five defensive backs drafted by the Vikings. The Saginaw, Michigan, native finished his Mississippi State career with 78 total tackles, including 10.5 tackles for loss, along with three sacks, two interceptions, one forced fumble and two fumble recoveries. A 2019 team captain at Mississippi State, Cole began his collegiate

career at the University of Michigan, where he played as a wide receiver in 2015, and East Mississippi Community College, where he played safety in 2016.

Kyle Hinton (6-2, 295) was taken in the seventh round (253rd overall) by the Vikings, rounding out the team's historic 2020 draft class as the 15th and final selection. A product of Washburn University, Hinton is one of two Division II players to be drafted in 2020. He started the final 34 games of his career at LT for Washburn and appeared in a total of 40 games during his four-year stint. A native of Peoria, Arizona, Hinton was named to three different All-American rosters following his senior season as an Ichabod.

Vikings.1rmg.com