## FLORIDA ADVISORY COMMITTEE 1 TO THE 2 U. S. COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS 3 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 MEETING BEFORE: FLORIDA ADVISORY COMMITTEE 15 DATE: THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1993 16 17 TIME: COMMENCED: 1:20 P.M. CONCLUDED: 4:15 P.M. 18 COUNTY COMMISSION CHAMBERS 19 LOCATION: LEON COUNTY COURTHOUSE 20 301 SOUTH MONROE STREET TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 21 22 REPORTED BY: SUE HABERSHAW JOHNSON CERTIFIED COURT REPORTER 23 REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL REPORTER NOTARY PUBLIC 24 25

2
APPEARANCES:
Representing the Florida Advisory Committee:
BRADFORD E. BROWN, CHAIRPERSON
ROBERT M. BRAKE HARRIET P. BROWN
VIRGIE H. CONE BOB INGRAM
ROBERT L. KNIGHT JUNE LITTLER
ERNEST MC DUFFIE ALBERT NELSON
* * * *
INDEX
<u>ITEM</u> PAGE
MEETING COMMENCED AND OPENING REMARKS
RACIAL AND ETHNIC TENSIONS IN FLORIDA 125
MEETING CONCLUDED
CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER
* * * * *

PROCEEDINGS

(WHEREUPON, THE MEETING COMMENCED AT 1:20 P.M., AT WHICH TIME MR. INGRAM AND MR. NELSON WERE ABSENT FROM THE MEETING ROOM.)

DR. BRADFORD E. BROWN: I want to welcome everyone here. My name is Brad Brown. I am from Miami, Florida, and I chair the Florida Advisory Committee to the U. S. Commission on Civil Rights.

We are here today in Tallahassee as part of our efforts of a project we have undertaken to look at issues of racial and ethnic tensions in Florida.

This is the culmination of a series of meetings we have had across the state. We have met in Miami, and we went as far as to Miami twice because of looking at the aftereffects of Hurricane Andrew. We have been in St. Petersburg, which was agreat point at that time relating to issues of the police force. We have been in Gainesville and Jacksonville, and now we are here in Tallahassee.

In Tallahassee we hope to be able to look at both some issues related to racial tensions related to local concerns and also those from the state perspective, since it is the Capital of the State of Florida.

We will be reviewing the material we have

HABERSHAW REPORTING SERVICE
P. O. BOX 505
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32302

٠,٠

collected at the meetings and using them to make recommendations primarily to the Commissioner, and we will also use it as a prelude to the planned Commission meeting in Miami as part of the national effort, which will be held now in 1994.

The Commission recently concluded hearings in Los Angeles and previously has been in Chicago and Washington, D. C., as part of the overall effort.

(WHEREUPON, MR. INGRAM ENTERED THE MEETING ROOM.)

With that I would like my fellow members of the Commission, I might state for those of you who are not familiar with the U. S. Commission on Civil Rights, it was appointed by individuals, by the President and Congress, to be the conscience of the federal government with regards to civil rights issues.

We are not an enforcement body, but we are a body that is thus free to raise issues to critique the effectiveness of the federal government in the area of civil rights.

The Civil Rights Commission then appoints State

Advisory Committees and expects them to be its eyes and

ears as to what is happening across the country, so

when in effect they speak out and make advice they

have input as to what is happening in all 50 states

and the District of Columbia.

So our primary position and purpose here is to obtain information, to be the eyes and ears of the Commission, so the Commission raises them on a broad policy level and keep them understanding what's happening.

Like the Commissioners, we are, they are not full-time jobs. We are volunteers for the Commission. We are paid for our actual expenses when we have to travel, but we are not salaried employees.

We do have the Acting Regional Staff Director,
Bob Knight, on my right, for the Commission. Right
now our Director, Mr. Bobby Doctor, is serving as the
Acting Staff Director in Washington prior to the
actual naming of a Staff Director for this Commission.

I might note for particular interest for those who follow things that the Commission Chair has just been nominated by the President. That is Dr. Mary Barry, one of the nation's outstanding civil rights leaders, so we might expect that would get along to naming the staff.

With that I would like to start, and let's start on my right and finish over here.

MR. ERNEST MC DUFFIE: Ernest McDuffie, Jacksonville, Florida.

MS. HARRIET P. BROWN: I'm Harriet Brown from

Orlando.

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

MS. VIRGIE H. CONE: I'm Virgie Cone from Jasper.

MR. ROBERT L. KNIGHT: Bob Knight from the Regional Office, Atlanta.

DR. BROWN: Brad Brown.

MR. ROBERT M. BRAKE: Bob Brake from Coral Gables, Florida.

(WHEREUPON, MR. NELSON ENTERED THE MEETING ROOM.)

MS. JUNE LITTLER: June Littler, Gainesville.

MR. BOB INGRAM: Bob Ingram, Jacksonville.

MR. NELSON: Albert Nelson, Orlando.

DR. BROWN: All right.

MR. KNIGHT: There is some information and a few copies of the reports that I put out for you, just below the sign-in sheet. I just would caution you to note the proposal that has the information about the Commission and the purpose of the Commission as well as the Commissioners is outdated, so these people are not longer in the positions. This is transition time.

But the information regarding the Commission is still the same.

MR. INGRAM: It's not in transition?

MR. KNIGHT: Not to our knowledge right now. We

want you to feel free to take a copy.

There are samples of the reports the Commission generates. I just brought a few of them, and please sign in to let us know you did attend here. Thank you.

DR. BROWN: Thank you. I will ask people to keep their remarks brief, recognizing you all picked up and schedule, so you know there are a number of people who wish to speak, and we will be leaving to adjourn close to 5:00 p.m.

I realize the flights out of here are limited, but I would ask that in addition to any verbal testimony we are pleased to receive written material, additional written material, either here, or it could be sent to the Regional Office in Atlanta after this meeting and will be included along with the files from this session.

MR. INGRAM: Mr. Chairman, I see a young man in the audience who has been a community activist for some time, and I don't see his name on the agenda, Riley Juggar, and I am wondering if Mr. Juggar would have anything to say, and if he does could we put his name on the agenda?

DR. BROWN: We do have, do we have some forms here for people to sign?

MR. KNIGHT: Yes.

DR. BROWN: If you would, if somebody is here who would like to speak or is representing somebody who was on the agenda, they don't need to, but if somebody is here who would like to and has material, we would like to be able to hear them, so if they would fill it out, and Bob will pick it up from you, and we will fit people into our schedule.

Okay. Is there a representative here from the Attorney General's Office? If not I'd like to ask Assistant Chief Coe from the Tallahassee Police Department to speak. Come up here, if you would. It is being transcribed.

MR. THOMAS R. COE: Good afternoon. It's a pleasure to be here. I don't have too many remarks. I have an opening statement. I'm here to answer questions.

In reference to racial tension in our community

I think you definitely could say we are a reflection of
society in general, and we do have more racial tensions
than we did a few years ago.

There is no doubt about that. I think that's witnessed by those who have been very active, and I'm sure we have all heard horror stories throughout the state, the William Lozano trial, the Cross City Five. There are a number of issues.

Miami Palico officer accused of mandaughter

When William Lozano's trial was scheduled to be moved here it heightened our racial tensions significantly, and we had a lot of programs to de-escalate feelings and went into the school systems and talked to children, talked to the parents, and tried to de-escalate this by that means.

I think we are dealing with a lot of objectives.

I think any time you have cultural diversity and you don't know people, they generally don't trust people until they have worked around them long enough to develop trust. I think that's one of the problems in this community. We live together, but I'm not sure we trust each other as much as we should.

For example, we have a significant juvenile crime problem here right now, and that's looked at primarily as a black male problem. Well, that's not altogether true. But it's easy to understand how you would relate to that.

When the news media covers that, our tourist murders in Florida, for example, the majority of those were committed by black males, and that's what you see on TV.

When you see arrests that are primarily for stolen vehicles and burglaries you see black males, so the average white citizen begins to believe all crime is

TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32302

committed by black males. Not true. But that's their perception.

And so they begin to fear all black males when they are walking down the street. It's a stereotype.

It's how someone feels.

You can certainly understand how that develops.

Police brutality, the same way. I will guarantee you there are a lot of black citizens, so if a poor black person was being severely beat and on the other side are a lot of whites, he's thought of as a criminal, you know, who was trying to flee from the police. And I think the key issue is suspicion in racial tension.

I guess the old saying, "Where to stand depends on where you sit," and from a standpoint it's how you perceive your own position in society.

As far as the Police Department, I think our call is racial tension has escalated. We are housed in an area of two major universities. We have parties now that are of significant size, some of them two and three thousand students at a time, a good mixture of students.

A lot of time alcohol or drugs are being ingested. Some will end up being on the verge of civil disorders, and we have to de-escalate those, and they are very tension filled positions for us.

2

3 4

5

6

7

8 9

10

11

12

13

14 15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24 25 Some of these can evolve to civil disorder.

I'm sure from your studies and your research you would agree that no community any more is immune from civil disorder.

Concord, North Carolina, had a civil disorder, a small community. It can happen anywhere.

We had a couple of situations here a couple of years ago working in Worthington Park where we had a party that developed into a small civil disorder. A couple of people driving through the complex happened to be white, and they were pulled out of their vehicles and severely beaten.

We went into the area to restore order, and our police officers were attacked. We almost had a situation out of control.

Luckily the officers were trained to de-escalate, and they did, and we didn't have serious consequences

We had a situation 10 days ago on the campus where we had a young man shot to death by another black mail. The officer responded to the The victim had been shot, and the officer was trying to render CPR, and he happened to be a white officer, and we had some minority students come up and kick, push him, told him to get away from the guy, not to touch him, and basically had it been a white guy they said he would have been trying a lot harder to save his life. Not true.

But again that almost erupted into a civil disorder for us.

So I think tensions are high, and I think it goes back to a lot of reasons. I'm sure we will not have time to discuss them so far as poor housing, education, and medical care, all of those, lack of opportunity for jobs, but I think all of those increase the tension in our community, but we have kind of a unique community also.

You will find that our community is willing to try and work on any problem, and we try to discuss issues openly and honestly to bring fairness and sensitivity to issues.

I think from that perspective we have a community to deal with a lot of issues, and we try to do that.

I think you will find our Police Department to be a very progressive Department. We are a well represented Department. We have 18 per cent female officers, 19 per cent minority officers, and we believe in representation.

We have good representation through our structure, we have minority officers in the Department in higher

positions, and we are willing to go out and get involved in the community in any way we can.

We attend community meetings, try to get as much feedback as we can, and we don't hesitate to go to meetings of FAMU campus and FSU campus and answer the questions of students.

We have found that to be very productive for us. We get some excellent feedback that way.

That's all I really had to say. I'll be glad to answer any questions you might have or during the afternoon.

DR. BROWN: Okay, thank you. You mentioned the breakdown, racial community breakdown of the police force. Could you provide our staff with those statistics for the record when you get back to your office?

MR. COE: Certainly.

DR. BROWN: Let me ask you one question. You mentioned that during the time that it looked as though the Lozano trial may have been transferred to here that you initiated activities. Have any of those activities been put on an ongoing basis and become incorporated into your ongoing program. With the police community relations?

MR. COE: Yes, sir. We have initiated a program

called the Citizens Police Academy, where we bring in 30 or 40 citizens and put them through a 10-week course of what police officers do and take them through everything and put them out in the field, riding with the police officers, and that has been a productive program from an educational standpoint, and we try to identify some community leaders and we will continue to run those.

We went in and did some intervention in the school system, and we tried to do that with our DARE program.

There are a number of issues like that we have put in place and have continued after.

We meet occasionally with the NAACP and have lunch with some of them. Again that's to try to establish good relationships.

The main reason is we'd like to know each other, because we know some day we will have a problem, and it's a lot easier if you know the people before the problem occurs than if you get there the first night it happens.

So I think you would find our Department is a very fine, community based program. We have an aggressive ride-along program. Any citizen is welcome to come and ride with a police officer, and we encourage that, to learn about what we do firsthand and how

problems are communicated into a police force.

Being a police officer is a very difficult job.

It's really a thankless job. It's a high stress job.

Everybody wants to criticize what you did, whether

you've done it right or wrong.

So after people are involved in a ridealong they have a much better feeling about the job of the police officers.

MR. INGRAM: Chief, what's your position on confiscating weapons? Do you destroy them? How do you deal with them?

MR. COE; Yes, sir, we go by the state law.

If they can be used for law enforcement purposes, for example, if we pick up a 357 revolver which we issue to officers and it's in good operational shape and we cannot return it to the owner, then it can be placed in our Department and issued to an officer.

If it's a weapon that is not authorized they are turned over to the Leon County Sheriff's Department and disposed of.

MR. INGRAM: So you don't re-sell those guns to gun dealers?

MR. COE: No, sir. There's enough guns out there without us putting more on the street.

MR. INGRAM: Very wise, Chief. Very wise. You will be Chief one day, not Assistant Chief.

MR. COE: I don't know about that.

. 

MR. INGRAM: Talk to me a little bit about young African Americans with black-on-black crime.

How is that faring?

MR. COE: High. I would say the majority of that is black-on-black crime, very high.

We've got a lot of violent crime, an increase in that. We have, like I said earlier, serious problems with juvenile crime, but especially we believe in our community we were doing fine until 1985. Then we had crack cocaine come to Tallahassee. I can take you back and show you what happened to us.

Our crime was fairly low, it started to escalate, and now that's one of our resources, I believe 80 per cent of our crimes are related in one way, stealing property to get money to buy for the drugs, but it's related back to drugs.

MR. INGRAM: One last question. If there was one piece of advice that if you had all of the powers, if you were the Ross Perot, what advice would you give to the African American community to resolve its violent crime?

MR. COE: I think we have to get, do some intervention at an early age with children, and get back to some basic values, but not just the African

American culture, everybody.

R

I would submit to you that the only way we are going to solve some of these issues is to get back and do some education and training and start with young people when their attitudes can still be molded.

I think we should have mandatory classes in school on cultural diversity. I think there ought to be mandatory classes all over on conflict resolution.

So many of the kids today, the only way they can resolve a problem is physical violence. That's all they know. They've got to learn there are other ways to resolve a problem other than pulling a knife or a gun and being an aggressive personality. That's where we're missing the boat.

MR. NELSON: I have a question. Jefferson County is adjacent to Leon County, isn't it?

MR. COE: Yes, sir.

MR. NELSON: Is there a possible spillover from the racial tension from Jefferson County as a result of the tourists being shot, that is black males supposedly did it, and the Jefferson County was handling it? Is there a possible spillover?

MR. COE: I think it would affect this community, because of course the news media covered it heavily. We read about it every day in the

newspaper.

The folks over there were accused of using

Gestapo-type tactics, and I think that has an impact:

just as the Rodney King case did this year, because

we went to a number of disturbances after the Rodney

King case, and the same chant was heard, "The police

are treating us just like Rodney King in L.A."

So, yes, I think anything like that, our entire society now is so media driven that I think we get the spinoff effects of that issue.

MR. KNIGHT: It's important, you mentioned some aspects of, you know, community policing is a popular phrase, and I guess it depends on which community you come from.

MR. COE: Right.

MR. KNIGHT: What's being implemented. You mentioned a body that you somehow went along with police officers. Does this body have any oversight authority? What does it really do? Do you get familiar with the operations, or do they have any authority over any aspects?

MR. COE: No, sir, our Citizens Police Academy is primarily a public education tool. We are involved in the community police concept.

(WHEREUPON, MR. INGRAM LEFT THE MEETING ROOM.)

 It can mean many things to anybody. We decentralized our services, created separate police substations to give the flexibility to deal in certain aspects with specific problems throughout our town.

We are trying to get back to basics. We have learned from the riots in Miami and Los Angeles. Those Departments were out of touch with their communities. They were not listening to the needs of their community.

We've got officers now on foot patrols, and we've got three squads of officers that ride bicycles that have contact with the person on the street.

Twenty years ago we got air conditioned cars, and we didn't listen to the people we were supposed to serve, and we are going back now and saying we have made some mistakes, and let's improve on it. Let's try to get back to the basics.

What's the primary need? For so many years we did, as police we did what we thought the people wanted us to do, and a lot of times that was not what the people wanted us to do, and we are trying to let them drive the police force a little more.

MR. KNIGHT: You are, in your post, how long have you been on the force?

MR. COE: Twenty-one years.

MR. KNIGHT: In your opinion would you say racial tensions in your community and Jefferson County and the surrounding counties, is it better or worse in the last 15 or 20 years?

MR. COE: It's worse. It's higher than it was. It's true all over the country.

Even when you go to meetings with people, people are so sensitive that if you say the wrong word somebody wants to criticize you, when you may not mean anything derogatory about that.

I think that's true all over the country.

You saw our President of FSU in trouble about commenting about Michigan State, and I think people are just more sensitive, and I don't think we're doing enough from a cultural diversity standpoint to be more sensitive about the issues.

DR. BROWN: Are there any, did you have any authority, do you have any civilian review besides the Commission itself on the actions of the Police Department?

MR. COE: No, we do not. We have, we are a nationally accredited organization, so we allow every five years an independent panel to come in, and they evaluate us and tell us if we need 900,

if we meet the 900 standards needed to be a nationally accredited Police Department. We are open for review that anybody would like to do.

We do not have a Citizens Review Board or anything of that nature. For example, if we have a shooting case we file a use of force report, which is reviewed to see if it was justified and necessary, and we have an independent review by the State Attorney's Office to make sure that our officers used proper force, but we do not have a citizen review panel.

DR. BROWN: Okay. I think we'd better move on. Thank you very much.

MR. COE: Thank you very much.

DR. BROWN: Ms. Diane Dunson?

MR. GEORGE MANNING: I'm George Manning, Assistant
Director for the Department of Community Improvement.

Ms. Duncan had an engagement that came up. I will
substitute.

However, I'd like to bring greetings on behalf of our Department of the City of Tallahassee. Our Department is basically involved in housing, code enforcement, providing service centers, and working with the community at large to help facilitate various programs and activities for our youth, our elderly,

2

3

4

5

6 7

8

9

10

11 12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

and our general population.

We find that with respect to the topic today, a lot, I think a lot of the tensions that exist come out of the housing situation.

People are living in squallored conditions, dilapidated housing, substandard housing. They have lost hope in a lot of instances, some of those things through our public housing as well.

So that, and I think that the Police Department can attest to this, that our public housing is in a state that most of the units are in such bad condition that it just festers a lot of people's thoughts as to how they should live.

I would compare it with some of the things Assistant Chief Coe mentioned about the diversity in our community as well as the heightened tensions that do exist.

I think it is permeated throughout the system so far as our young people and especially the recent conditions and events, as well as those who are out of work, the unemployed.

That has a significant impact on what's happening in our community.

As I mentioned, we have two universities, a major size junior college, community college, but we have

very little manufacturing enterprises. Mostly your businesses are usually in government or in the service industries at minimum wage, so those things tend to breed a lot of I guess hopelessness in some people, that they can't get ahead, they can't rise above that particular level where they are, that they have no new opportunities for them to look for, even though they go to school or to special vocational programs or whatever. When they come out there are no jobs.

So therefore you have a lot of people who sit on the sidelines that don't have any hope, especially if they want to stay in this particular community.

I think it's happening around not only the state but the country as well.

Even though we have low unemployment as compared to Miami or Orlando or some other cities around the state, but we have I guess a lot of people want to say a high intelligencia in Tallahassee because of the government and the educational institutions.

I think that some of the things that are happening now are our youth, give them some opportunities and going back to the basics of homelife.

We have children having children, and they don't know how to guide them, and they get out in the street at 10 or 11 o'clock at night, and you have young kids,

eight and nine, running around, and it only festers
the crime problem. They only look up to drug dealers
or somebody else that's not really providing the
guidance that should be there.

I think our churches in our communites, some of them are making a valient effort to provide programs and opportunities that can channel the kids and mentor the kids, so that some of the hatred that exists within the school system can be broken down.

I think our interactions with each other need to have a higher point. Thank you.

DR. BROWN: Thank you very much. Any questions?

MR. MC DUFFIE: Yes. Basically you deal with
a community block grant sum of money?

(WHEREUPON, MR. INGRAM ENTERED THE MEETING ROOM.)

MR. MANNING: No. Not directly. Our city funds are primarily city funds with the exception of the CHADS program and the housing program.

MR. MC DUFFIE: All right. You are off the hook.

MR. KNIGHT: You mentioned about youth, and I guess I meant to ask you or Chief Coe, but in terms of gang activities in this community do you have any knowledge of or what's your assessment of gang activity in the community?

MR. MANNING: I don't know of any organized gangs,

you know, per se. I know that they have groups of young guys who live in a certain neighborhood, and they associate together. I guess basically only recently have they really identified some of those particular groups., and that has been Holton Street and the Georgia Street Bulldogs and Macomb Street.

I grew up in New Jersey, in Newark, and during that time there were like three major gangs, and one gang had like over 1,000 members. They were spread across the city.

It was never of the level of gang violence as it is today.

MR. KNIGHT: In the community you have not been aware?

MR. MANNING: I have not in Tallahassee.

MR. KNIGHT: Can you give us your assessment of the situation in this city in terms of better, worse, or the same?

MR. MANNING: They are worse. I have been here for 10 years, and I have seen it gradually get worse all along. I think some of the things that just have to happen to bring people together will make it a better community and must be on the table.

MR. INGRAM: I'm sorry. I was out. But tell me, you say it's worse. Let's be specific. What and how?

MR. MANNING: I think the distance between people that exist between black and white, you know, things that may be said at particular times, the press, they will pick them up. It looks like they just add a little yeast to them to get that story.

"I've got to get to the six o'clock news, so

I've got to have the story, so I want to make sure

I've got your statement right as to what's happening."

The crack cocaine, as he said before, Tallahassee is a very livable city. It's a community I think that, you know, bar none other in the country really has a lot to offer, bug the crime and the delinquency problems that I have seen occur, the breakins in our facilities, in fact our office was broken into last night, and when I walked into the office this morning the police were there and taking the fingerprints, and this is the second time like within four weeks, and people are breaking in to get to the vencing machines, so they are tearing up the vendint machines to get the money out.

You know, we've got computers and desks and everything else. They don't want them. They go right for those vending machines.

I think that statistically you look at crime statistics, and now they publish them in the paper geographically, burglaries and everything else, whereas

before they did not, and I guess that makes people more aware of the crime problem within the community.

MR. INGRAM: One other question. What is the Department of Community Improvement doing to impact on the number of violent crimes, especially getting drugs off the street in Tallahassee?

MR. MANNING: Well, we are not directly involved in that part. But what we do have, and we have two community centers, one the Smith-Williams Service Center, a multipurpose center, and Lincoln Neighborhood Center, the old Lincoln High School at one time, and it's been converted into a multipurpose center, and we try to have activities in there for our youth that will channel them in a different direction.

We have a boxing program for young kids that has been really good to come along in the past year. We worked with Boys and Girls Clubs of the Big Bend to try and provide some programs. We have after-school tutoring and mentoring programs in both public centers.

So we have tried to utilize those facilities to channel the young people with good programs, the persons who can guide them in the right way.

But I think that's good for the young folks, but then you've got the other cases, the group of other young adults that I say is from 14 to 25 years old who

are basically on the streets, those who have

dropped out of school, and trying to get them back
into a vocation that will be productive for them and
their families, those are the missing links right
now.

MR. INGRAM: How close does your Department
work with law enforcement?

MR. MANNING: With law enforcement? Oh, very much so.

Through code enforcement we work with them and various programs we offer at the centers. They are very much involved in our neighborhood planning.

For instance, in Frenchtown area, which is kind of I guess the...

MR. INGRAM: Frenchtown forever?

MR. MANNING: Frenchtown forever. It has been one of those heightened areas of criminal activities in drugs, crime, murder, and assaults, and we have tried to do some things so far as revitalization of the area.

The Police Department has been a very integral part of our planning process every step of the way, working with our neighborhood organizations and having, giving their input.

For instance, I'd like to give you this particular thing.

The city about four years ago, four to five years ago, planned a drainage retention facility in a particular area. We nad to move about 70 families out of that area for this to be constructed. Once it was constructed the neighborhood said that we ought to make it into a park. They had not appropriated any dollars for that purpose.

But before we went and just did, "Okay, we're going to make it a park," we had the Police Department and their Crime Prevention Unit at meetings in the neighborhood to help develop the safety aspect of that facility, and I don't believe they have had any major crime or criminal activity in that particular area since it's been completed.

I think the design of it was very well made, and the community came out and participated along with the police, and so it made a big difference.

MR. BRAKE: I have a question. You mentioned there was lack of maintenance of the public housing facilities. What's the reason for that? What's trying to be done about it?

MR. MANNING: I look at, well, maintenance from the point of view if you go by a lot of them, they have so many units boarded up when people need housing.

Occupants tear them up consistently. And at the



Macomb Street location they are getting ready to open it up. They're going to tear down some units, demolish some units, because it's so close in, and with people living on top of each other, those attitudes and everything just kind of fuse together, and then you have the smallest spark can set something off.

So they plan to open this particular apartment complex up by demolishing I think it's 20 units, something like that, but they kind of opened it up a little bit to make it a little bit more livable.

MR. INGRAM: We need to say to our members that public housing basically throughout the State of Florida is running into a problem because of maintenance dollars, that when the federal government cut HUD, there went those maintenance dollars, so once they move out and the way those houses are constructed if my bathroom goes bad and is not attended to, then the restroom in the next building will go bad, and it just winds up creating a whole, real problem.

So McDuffie would love to spend two hours telling you about the problems with HUD.

MR. BRAKE: They had that in Miami, too.

DR. BROWN: Last night it looked like there were

2

3

5

6

8

10

11

13

14

15 16

17

18

19

20

22

23

24 25 more apartments boarded than lived in.

MR. INGRAM: It doesn't happen in Orange County?

(LAUGHTER.)

MR. NELSON: Not at all.

(LAUGHTER.)

MR. MANNING: Thank you.

DR. BROWN: I'd next like to ask Ms. Barnes, representing Dr. Charles Evans of the Tallahassee Branch of the NAACP, to say something to us.

MS. ALTHEMESE BARNES: Thank you. Good afternoon. It is a pleasure for me to be here representing the Florida State Conference of NAACP, Tallahassee Branch, as well as the state. I am the State Secretary for that organization.

The Florida State Conference of NAACP Branches
has identified a number of issues which are crucial
to the citizens of the State of Florida. These issues
have implications for every Florida resident. However,
our concern is that in many instances they are of
paramount importance to the African American community
and other minority group citizens.

These issues we feel affect the status and have been for some time of racial and ethnic tensions in Florida.

To enumerate these, the following lists are

, 1

offered in priority order with a brief description.

Number one, the Americans with Disabilities

Act. Under Florida Statute the statute itself needs to

be amended to include the definitions and general

language of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Currently Florida Statutes merely indicate that it is illegal to discriminate against people with disabilities.

The NAACP feels that the statute needs definitions, indications, and jurisdictions, and some clear indication of what constitutes a violation.

While we recognize that the Americans with Disabilities Act is put in place to assure no discrimination against all persons with disabilities, our concern is that this law needs to be widely complied with, because many times minority persons with disabilities are the most neglected and discriminated against group in society, based on the number of cases we receive and the number of cases that we have in reports that are filed with enforcement agencies.

Number two, equity in education. Currently there is no agency which has been designated as being fully responsible for enforcement of the Florida Education Equity Act.

This is an act that was put into place in 1984 in the State of Florida. The fact that there is no one to enforce any finding of discrimination under the act is a deterent to the elimination of discrimination in the state's education system.

This particular problem is also evident in the implementation of the Florida Education Reform and Accountability Act. Currently the State of Florida is in the process of developing and implementing school reform and accountability which was brought about by 1990 legislation.

The present legislation does not include oversight, compliance, nor enforcement. Those areas are very weak and nonexistant really.

The lack of state Department of Education oversight of local School Districts invites abuse of the civil rights of students, faculty, and support staff in many Districts across the state. This discrimination includes in curriculum, placement, teacher placement, retention, and general employment.

We realize we have an Office of Civil Rights
that has the responsibility to receive complaints of
discrimination in education, services, programs, and
activities. However, it has been our experience that
oftentimes findings issued by the Office of Civil

rights are given carte blanche to School Districts to further perpetuate discrimination.

I have brought with me an outline of cases that have been filed with the agency since 1989, which total 556. These are allegations on race, national origin, and disability. In the majority, a large percentage of the cases were no-cause findings.

I also brought a copy of a report finding to leave with you, so you can see what I'm referring to where it's been lodged by the agency that there are disproportionate representations, but then it's left, and with no real basis for why this is happening to tie it to discrimination.

Three, human intergroup relations in schools.

The proliferation of interracial tensions in schools throughout the state indicates the need for human relations or intergroup relations in our elementary and secondary schools across the state.

Examples of the kinds of programs which can be implemented include the model program established by the National Conference of Christians and Jews in the Pinellas and Hillsborough County schools, and <a href="Teaching Tolerance">Teaching</a> Tolerance distributed by the Southern Baptist Law Center out of Montgomery Alabama.

I was pleased to hear the Assistant Chief of Police

3

5 ß

7

8

9 10

11 12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

24 25

mention our support efforts for this type of training and the NAACP also supports those mandatory enforcements of the training, because we find many times in the School Districts as well as on the state level with the Department of Education I list such training as mandatory, but usually supervisors, managers, etcetera, will not take advantage of that program.

Fourth, discrimination law, discrimination against women who become pregnant or new mothers is continuing at an alarming rate in Florida.

Women are being forced to leave their jobs, and this is a significant problem.

Changes in the treatment of pregnant employees, such as reassignment to positions requiring little or no public contact in their position has the effect of preventing career advancement and hindering upward mobility for these women.

Five, asset seizure and confiscation laws. Over the past few years, and I'm sure you are aware of this, the state's asset seizure laws have been abused by law enforcement officials who used the law to confiscate money and property without regard to whether or not there is reason to assume that the property or money was obtained as a result of illegal activity.

Very recently, June of '93, the NAACP did initiate action to bring litigation in this particular matter.

This was based on the fact that some 90 per cent of the persons whose property was seized were African Americans and the minority groups. Although those individuals were not found to have committed a crime, their property was not returned to them.

So litigation is underway in that area.

Individual families have lost homes and cars because of their possession of small amounts of an illegal substance, while others with the right connections may not have any property seized.

The NAACP is also looking into another law which we feel will have impact on minority citizens, and all of this would affect racial tensions, and this law deals with the type of illegal substance and the penalties that are applied.

The penalties are stiffer for crack cocaine, as opposed to powder cocaine, because the latter is considered to be a middle to upper class type drug, and the former is more of the street type, cheaper drugs. We look upon that as disparity, and we need to take a look at that.

Six, bias in the judicial system. The state has

already undertaken to increase the number of minority and female judges in court offices. In large part these efforts depend on increased appointment of minorities and females to the Judicial Nominating

Commission.

In view of recent court rulings in Duval and
Leon County it would appear that the Legislature must
address reform of the at-large election process as it
applies to drugs, to judges.

DR. BROWN: Excuse me. Freudian slip.
(LAUGHTER.)

MS. BARNES: Clearly at-large elections fail to offer minorities any opportunity to elect candidates of their choice to the judicial branch, and as has been stated earlier we have had lawsuits filed. In fact, one of the Commissioners in this county courthouse filed a successful lawsuit challenging the at-large election for judges, and we just two days ago inducted or had placed on the bench the first African American woman to the bench.

Seven, excessive use of force by police agencies.

Recent events in Tampa and Crystal River illustrate

the need for better recruitment, training, and

equipment of our law enforcement agencies. Excessive

or inappropriate use of force is a constant source of

contention between the Florida police agencies and the minority communities all across the state.

Support for community policing and also for community review boards, that was mentioned a little earlier, that's one of the things that the NAACP has pushed for or sought for quite some time in this particular community.

The issue of environmental legislation, number eight. The siting of toxic waste dumps and other hazardous industries in poor and minority neighborhoods is a major health problem I know here in Tallahassee, and I'm pretty sure across the state.

Whether it's phosphate waste in Hillsborough

County or toxic wastes and chemicals in Escambia

County, the practice continues to leave minority

communities with high levels of cancer and respiratory

disease. This must be addressed.

Nine, improving conditions for migrant workers.

Housing, education, health care continue to be areas where migrants suffer in the State of Florida.

The combination of low wages, pesticide poisoning, exploitation, and discrimination continue to take their toll on the state's agricultural workers.

Conditions exist which really resemble slavery and need to be addressed.

 Ten, labor force training and employment rights.

The state must take the lead in retraining our work

force. The loss of manufacturing jobs and the increased

need for a more technically skilled work force is

leaving many of Florida's workers out in the cold.

This ties in quite a bit with the education

deprivation.

We have many youth on the street now who are the offspring of other African Americans who early in the system were either kicked out, dropped out, pushed out, and therefore the parents have not been able to provide adequate education, parenting skills, and it is felt that this is being played out to some degree in this crime and violence we are experiencing.

Eleven, cultural awareness training for police agencies. Continued problems between police agencies and minority communities need to be addressed by amending the Police Standards Act to require citizens' involvement components in all police agencies, and that was mentioned earlier.

Twelve, hate and hate crimes. Police Academy curriculum and in-service training must include classes on how to identify hate crimes. All police agencies must be required to utilize national hate crimes reporting systems. Legislation should be developed to

require production of all hate crime violations, regardless of the victim's wishes.

The habitual offender or career criminal statute must be revised to provide uniform, consistent application of the statute, without regard to race. It is clear from studies undertaken by the Florida Legislature that was ordered by the Governor as well as the State Attorneys and Sheriffs Association that the career criminal statute has been used in a racially discriminatory fashion in this state.

It is also obvious that sentencing guidelines must be revised to provide fairness and consistency in sentencing.

This list is obviously not exhaustive. However, it gives a good indication of the many issues facing the citizens of Florida. One final issue that must be addressed is the continued perception fostered by public officials, law enforcement officers, and the media that all of the crime and all of the problems of this state are caused by young black males. There is no doubt that young black males are disproportionately represented in the criminal justice system in the state; however, the crime problem cuts across race, ethnic, and gender lines.

The problem is inclusive and therefore solutions

must be inclusive.

In the final analysis there is an urgent need to deal with the problems of poverty, unemployment, and underemployment, education and health if we are to make a difference in the status of racial unrest.

Each of these problems cause or exascerbate other problems. They must be addressed as a unit.

The solutions must not seek to cast blame or abrogate the problem. In fact, the solutions must be broad based and inclusive of the entire society.

The ultimate solutions will require input and cooperation from all tiers of government, administration, and the citizenry.

DR. BROWN: Thank you very much.

MS. BROWN: You were speaking for the Tallahassee area, and you said you were speaking for the State of Florida. Do you have some statistics that would support the high Americans with Disabilities Act would be the primary priority with the NAACP?

MS. BARNES: Yes, we have collected data. Of course, I don't have it here with me, but there are now through enforcement agencies and taking a tally of the type of cases that have been coming in, that is one of the areas that we have found of late has got to be a crucial area.

MS. BROWN: In Tallahassee or statewide?

MS. BARNES: Statewide.

MS. BROWN: Okay.

MS. BARNES: Statewide.

DR. BROWN: You are saying from the standpoint of immediate Florida state legislative action. However, actions in Florida combined with the federal law, which is at priority? What's the highest priority?

MS. BARNES: Yes, the NAACP does a lot of work, a lot of its focus is on changes to statutes and legislation and policy and litigation types of things, so the delivery of the presentation that I have given is more in that context.

MR. MC DUFFIE: This is information for Mr. Poole. Are you familiar with the Affirmative Action Act of 1982 where the State of Florida receives millions of dollars for training, but they are not doing apprenticeship training, and that is supposed to be complied with by Title VII of the Civil Rights Act.

What we tried to do was asked the Governor in

1992 was to send an Executive Order for Florida, so all
these projects that the State of Florida is doing
would fall under affirmative action, and I'd like you to
go back to Mr. Poole, because Ms. Holzendorf and

Dennis and Tony here and you are saying a couple of bills will start affirmative action, so we can address these millions of dollars.

Also your handout shows the City of Jacksonville received over 12 million dollars from Private

Intercommunity Council, but we can!t get any to the express programs.

What they are doing is 24 counties, and they use it basically to subsidize the cities in using these for summer programs and basically wasting money.

If you let Mr. Poole know and give it to Dennis and Tony here, maybe we can get this passed and we can address all of these problems.

If our kids are not cared for properly, the city and the State of Florida is saying in the Miami area we think 300 million dollars are spent for the problem of hurricanes, but if we can't get our kids in the proper apprenticeship training we will be left out of the next 20 years.

If we don't change our approach and use of these loans with the NAACP we keep fighting the same battle, and you could use the money to circumvent the law.

I'd be happy to assist.

DR. BROWN: All right.

Ì

You mentioned one thing that was

needed was teaching tolerance. Is anyone doing that 2 in the county? 3 MS. BARNES: Well, I work for the Department of 4 Education. 5 MS. LITTLER: Be sure that everyone in charge of 6 the cirriculum has access to that, because I think 7 it's a step in the right direction. 8 MS. BARNES: As a matter of fact we are on the 9 regular mailing list for that information and utilize 10 quite a bit of information. 11 MR. INGRAM: When I stepped out a moment ago it 12 was because the Honorable Willie Dennis had called and 13 wanted to make sure someone from the NAACP waws 14 well represented, so I will be certainly pleased to 15 tell her you did an adequate job. 16 However, I have a couple of questions, and I guess 17 18 it will become evident to all concerned I have a 19 real thing about guns, and I have that because I 20 believe very strongly that the African American 21 community will not progress until it polices itself. 22 We cannot wait on anyone from the outside to come in and save us from us. 23 I further believe that if that was an outside 24 25 group penetrating our community and killing young

MS. LITTLER:

African Americans at the rate that we're killing young African Americans, this Commission along with almost any other Commission involving civil rights would have been empanelled a long time ago, because there would be many of us screaming to the tops of our voices that racism is the direct cause of the killing, and therefore we should be tracking down those who are inflicting this punishment.

Being my feelings being as strong as they are,
I then must say and wonder when will the NAACP
prioritize and come to the realization that we, too,
must understand that violence is the number one
problem that we face within the African American
community.

If we don't do something to curve the violence existing in the African American community, the programs of Brother McDuffie and others have talked about will not be.

But it seems like we always, most of us, and

I'm talking us now in our organization, want to skirt

the issue of dealing directly and confronting

black-on-black crime heads up, so that we can tell

our children, "You've got to stop it."

So my question to you as to everyone else, what has, what is and has the NAACP, and I'm a life member,

25 -

I want you to know I'm a card carrier talking, and I can vote when voting time comes, you know, most people like to talk, but they don't like to have the membership to back up their conversation.

So it means I'm certainly not anti-, but I'm just trying to get a point, and that is when will the NAACP take and prioritize as number one that we've got to stop killing our children?

MS. BARNES: Well, I think in looking at the issues that we tried to deal with, our overall effort is to try and impact that there is a problem.

Our new Executive Director, Reverend Chavis, has made one of the top issues the matter of crime and violence, and at his initial national NAACP convention he went into the hood and interacted, slept with, whatever, the youth in the Indiana area, so that is an initiative.

We do feel though that it is equally important to deal with those situations that bring about the attitudes of crime and violence.

Many times we hear about the black-on-black crime, but we also have white-on-black crime that is perpetuated in many ways.

When Mr. McDuffie made mention of the pigs, for 15 years I worked for the Department of Labor and

23 24

25

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

HABERSHAW REPORTING SERVICE P. O. BOX 505

TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32302

j

Employment Security and went out and monitored private industry and what have you, and there is a lot of waste in those programs. Turnover, hire 15 people in Wendy's, six weeks, followup 30 days success placement, move them out, and bring more in.

The housing matter, right here in Leon County

I serve on the Community Development Block Grant

Advisory Committee, and we are dealing with the issue

now of over six million dollars that has come into

the town, and my concern is what are we going to do about

the targeted areas, quote, poverty, impoverished areas,

and I'm concerned about that, because just last year it

was brought to our attention that a humongous amount

of money was spent on affordable housing in Leon

County, and it was targeted for Frenchtown, but not

one dime of it went into those communities.

So when we have this kind of, this other type of crime or social issue thing that we have to deal with, which really contributes to a lot of the youth you see out there running around committing crimes.

MR. INGRAM: Well, I think that there is no one, single solution to the multitude of problems that we as African Americans face, but I still don't think that we're runing in and ready to publicly admit, you know, flatfooted, without taking a back seat and without giving the impression to anyone that we are

putting down young African Americans, because that's not the case, but we do recognize and realize that we have an ever growing problem with young African Americans taking lives of other young African Americans, and if white folks were killing us at the same rate we are killing each other we would be outraged.

When will we become upset? When will we not be willing to accept another death? When will be become upset? When will we not be willing to accept another death?

That's my whole reasoning, to get us to thinking that there's something we need to do.

MR. NELSON: First of all I want to thank
the NAACP for filing the lawsuit against Volusia
County. That's the search and seizure law. It came up
at the last hearing in Tampa.

You mentioned about the judicial system. You said that was a priority. Was that in relation to the study of them buying guns by the Governor, whereas black people were appointed to judgeships?

MS. BARNES: Okay, the suit was filed prior to the study, but the study gave the support or substantiated the fact that there was disproportionate or disrepresentation on the bench.

MR. NELSON: On the bench?

MS. BARNES: Right.

MR. NELSON: You say there was a suit? The suit is in progress now?

MS. BARNES: It's partially resolved. We did have someone appointed to the bench, and the judge pretty much ruled the at-large system is not the best way to go to afford an opportunity to minorities and women.

MR. NELSON: That's the voting aspect, but the Governor has the prerogative to appoint.

MS. BARNES: Right, and that's what he just did.

MR. NELSON: At the recommendation of the committee set up by the party lines, the Governor appoints them.

Is the NAACP seeking a change in the way that's done?

I think part of that is key, because the committee, the lawyers have to get together on the committee in order to recommend, so is that being studied?

MS. BARNES: That is a part, yes, to increase the representation of the nominating committees. In fact, that has taken place, too, to a certain extent. Of course, you still have the three among seven on that kind of thing, but the numbers have increased on the commissions, and that's not a dead issue. Efforts are still ongoing in that respect.

MR. NELSON: Okay. 1 The NAACP, do you process complaints? MR. KNIGHT: 2 Do you have any of that activity in your office? 3 MS. BARNES: Only to the extent that people can come 4 in and file informal complaints with us, and then we 5 try to put them in the right channel, employment, 6 education, or what have you, but enforcement authority 7 we don't have. 8 I understand, but you do, and you MR. KNIGHT: 9 refer on? 10 Right. MS. BARNES: 11 And you do have an active part of MR. KNIGHT: 12 this activity? 13 MS. BARNES: Yes, sir. 14 Those of us with the enforcement MR. NELSON: 15 16 area across the state where we do work with them may 17 refer things also, because they keep statistics, but 18 we do since they don't have enforcement authority, 19 we have ample authority. Do you know how many you get on a written basis 20 21 in Tallahassee? 22 MS. BARNES: In Tallahassee on a daily basis you can get anywhere from maybe 15 to 20 calls. 23 24 MR. NELSON: Fifteen to 20. What are the areas? 25 Most of the areas are employment MS. BARNES:

discrimination and law enforcement issues, criminal

issues. "I'm in prison, and I feel like I have a sentence that's unfair," or what have you.

But most do deal with employment and criminal issues.

MR. NELSON: Thank you.

MS. BARNES: And education.

MR. MC DUFFIE: You deal with HUD money, this regulation 6/99, on page 167 of this law, Section 109 deals with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, getting into law in 69. I think if the NAACP would get this book and when the dollars come to Tallahassee and if blacks are not included and they don't have affirmative action, I think you can stop it.

We have a case in Jacksonville, two cases, and hope it will show that these dollars are used by county roads, sewage, and everything without draining our needs.

If you get that book and look at the law I think you can stop some of that.

DR. BROWN: It's rather interesting that we invite people to give recommendations, and we also ask them when they come to give us recommendations that we as government agencies would be the ones who would be able to carry out things, recognizing there are others that would not be appropriate, and we end up as with

the NAACP recommending what we would like to see the 1 NAACP do to approve the program it's working on. 2 MS. BARNES: And by the way, to take some of the 3 thunder, we are all volunteers. We have regular jobs. 4 I'm on annual leave now. 5 MS. BROWN: We understand. 6 DR. BROWN: It's important to remember that you 7 are receiving them, and it's a tribute to the NAACP's 8 representation here as it is in civil rights that the 9 people would feel it was appropriate. 10 Thank you very much for taking time off of your job 11 to come here today. 12 We will give you a break at the MR. INGRAM: 13 14 end of the year. If you stay, there is information in DR. BROWN: 15 the packet. 16 The next individual on the agenda is Reverend 17 18 Ernest Ferrell. Is Reverend Ferrell or a representative 19 of his present? The next individual invited to speak is 20 Okay. 21 Reverend Holmes. MR. INGRAM: He's not here. 22 Do we have any representatives of the 23 DR. BROWN: 24 Mayor's Office? We did earlier, for people's information,

have the Vice Chair of the County Commission, Ms. Davis,

speak to us during the regular meeting, because she would be tied up with a television hearing and would try to be back later.

I saw Dr. Jones come in. You made it just in time. The next speaker, Dr. William R. Jones.

DR. WILLIAM R. JONES: I must say I heard you a week ago Thursday, and in fact I brought some of my same slides. I will not use them, because I don't have a setup for that.

The message I want to leave with you and your co-workers is the same.

I'm not sure whom I represent here. Dr. Freddie Groomes, Vice President of the university, was invited and is out of the country and out of the city and was not able to come, so she asked me to come in her stead.

I serve as the Chairperson for the Anti-Apartheid
Advisory Council for the City of Tallahassee, and I
guess I can represent that as well.

I am here more as a concerned citizen, as someone who had been doing research in this area for 30 years, and we have developed a very effective grid for dealing with some of the problems, issues, and questions that you raised, and I have to say I find some of the diagnoses being advanced here as part of the

÷

problems, rather than the solution.

. I wish I had a place to set up my slides, but I can't.

Now I want to suggest that there are some problems that you and I are dealing with, but please note you are working with it, so you see the whole thing, and I am looking at it otherwise.

If you choose to look from here the rest will be invisible to you.

What I am trying to have you do is for us to make that kind of shift where you analyze your problem on the racial problem from an entirely different angle and analysis, and when you begin to do that I think you would begin to understand why I say there are some serious errors in the way you are approaching these problems.

I am not sure you understand the magnitude of these. It's what we call the DDT principle, "Diagnosis dictates therapy." "Diagnosis dictates therapy."

I will give you a couple of examples, and when my time is up I'll stop and go take my seat.

I have a headache. I have a headache. I go to the doctor. The doctor takes my headache as a symptom, as an effect, e-f-f-e-c-t.

And then what the doctor attempts to do is to

identify the cause of that headache, that symptom, and that's precisely what we call a diagnosis.

A diagnosis and identifying the controlling cause for some kind of effect, i.e. symptom. But, please note. Based on whatever cause you locate in that diagnosis will determine or dictate your therapy.

Case in point. Not only will it dictate your therapy, but you can predict the therapy based on the cause that's identified in the diagnosis.

Headache, i.e. diagnosis, cause: constipation.

You know my therapies. What therapies? You know it.

Why do you know it? Because you are operating on some key principles.

I go back and get a second opinion. This time the doctor says, "You have a brain tumor." Brain tumors also produce headaches. But that's a different diagnosis based on a different cause, which should give you a different therapy.

What does that give us? I have a case of malpractice.

Note what I'm saying. The causality that you identify is critical. If you are identifying the wrong causality you are going to come up with the wrong therapy.

Now please note. I've been talking about medicine as if this principle, the DDT principle, only applies to medicine.

It's an across-the-board type of analysis and problem solving device, because every social/economic/political policy, every educational curriculum is what? Therapy.

Someone has done an analysis of a concrete economic/social/political situation, and they have identified a controlling cause, and based on that controlling cause they have come up with what? A therapy which is nothing more than a policy.

So please note the whole success in your work is being able to go in and identify the correct causality, not the false causality, and what I'm here to talk about, and let me give you an example.

I can't use a VCR, but I'll have to do it the different way.

A guy on Long Island dug a hole in his back yard 90 feet by 90 feet by 90 feet. I said, "Why the hell are you messing up my neighborhood?" The guy says, "To keep the elephants away."

I said, "There aren't any elephants within 10,000 miles." He said, "See how effective it is?"

Now you smiled, but I want to suggest to you that

some of the causes that I have heard today fall within that same category of the false causality.

> If you get the wrong causality you're going to come up with the wrong therapy.

Now I need to say one more little thing about causality, because that't the crucial thing to focus on in terms of coming up with the right policy. I have to introduce another concept called labelling, labelling.

Go to the supermarket, take a tin can, there's no label on it. You don't know what's inside.

We use labels to identify the contents of things and tell us what's inside. We use labels also to control human behavior, because if I put a label on something I place a label on something to try to make you conclude that that label is an accurate description of whatever the object is or whatever the content of that object is.

The case in point. Look at two batteries. I'll stick Everready on one side and Duracell on the Those are labels. Now please note the first label is labelled Everready. Is there any battery that is ever ready? That's a lie in labelling. battery is ever ready.

But if you take that label to be an accurate

24

25

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

description of the object, i.e. the battery, you are more apt to buy the Everready battery than the Duracell, and it's based on what? Not the object, . but your label.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

Now you tell me what the difference based on labelling is between welfare and a subsidy. start off as taxpayers' money. Your pocket and mine. We send it to the government units, and the government sends it back, reallocates it, and then the different ones go to the different people's pockets.

If it goes to the rich people's pockets it's a subsidy. If it goes to the poor people's pockets we call it welfare, but we have an entirely different attitude to it.

Welfare, you can't stay on too long. makes you dependent. Every time you check it. back and tell me how you have to go back before one of them stood up and made some negative remarks about welfare.

Please note, what we are suggesting for the State of Florida is the following. Stop talking about the difference between subsidies, such as welfare, and we talk about two kinds of welfare, welfare for rich people and welfare for poor people.

A tax break is no more than welfare for rich people,

TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32302

and the people start talking about reducing welfare, and they talk about reducing welfare across the board. If you do that you will not have to talk about raising taxes.

-6

g

Septimizations

Check. Now I want to talk about the causality, because this will bring us to black-on-black violence. I'm concerned to address it.

I wish I had my slides, but I don't. I want you to focus on the concent of cause, cause and effect, because cause and effect are labels. They are labels that we put on things.

If you look out there you will simply see some events that don't have labels on them. Nature does not label anything cause and effect. The sun comes up, and the sun goes down. It's cause and effect. Any event can be cause or effect. Check it. Any event.

But please note that once you put the cause on something, you are blaming somebody. You are holding somebody accountable or culpable.

What I want to do is to suggest to you whoever has the power to label something cause or effect has the power to control social, economic, and political reality, and I will give you an example.

They had an accident down at the Amtrak train

## HABERSHAW REPORTING SERVICE P. O. BOX 505 TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32302

5

station. An effect. Train runs off the track.

The first report from some of the people who were on the train was that the train was going too fast.

That was the cause of the train wrecking. Who was being held accountable in that situation? The engineer.

Then we learned later on about that a barge had struck the track.

Now please note identifying a different cause we have shifted the culpability and accountability.

Causality and culpability go together.

Now know what I'm saying. What I do is set up a couple of dominoes. I wish I could show it to you, because you don't understand what I'm saying unless I can show it to you, but I'll just give you an example of what I mean.

Go back to Daniel Patrick Moynihan, present
Senator from the State of New York. As you remember
he wrote this document, "The Negro Family: The Case
for National Action," which became in a sense the
policy for most of the governmental units in the
United States response to the African American
community.

What he does is set up the following. He talks first about the deterioration or decline of the

black community, the black community. He takes that as an effect.

And then the first paragraph, he talks about saying the following, that it is the decline of the deterioration of the black family which is the cause of the deterioration of the black community.

Note the connection between that causality and that culpability.

By identifying the black family as the cause of the deterioration, of the black community, which community is being held culpable and accountable?

The black community.

I'm trying to show you the causality and culpability go together.

On the very same, two paragraphs down, Daniel
Patrick Moynihan says something to this effect. He
says, "White Americans have not recognized or acknowledged
the effect of 300 years of exploitation on the
African American community."

He goes on to say, "This is the primary cause of the decline of the African American community," and that you cannot solve the problem of the African American community until you address this 300 years of exploitation.

Now please note I'm trying to get a "Y" up here, so the bottom of the "Y" is the deterioration of the

HABERSHAW REPORTING SERVICE P. O. BOX 505

TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32302

black community, and the two points of the "Y", one is deterioration of the black family, and the other one is deterioration, 300 years of white exploitation.

Now please note by focusing on 300 years of white exploitation which community is now being held culpable or responsible for the decline of the black community? The white community. All he did was what? Change the causality.

You know what I'm saying. Where you identify the cause will be where you put the culpability.

But please note. Did Moynihan's policy, economic/social policy, represent or reflect the analysis that I gave you? No.

His policy said was that black people, the black family is to be held accountable for the problem.

He talked about benign neglect. Tell me how he can get a therapy of benign neglect out of his own analysis.

But really every single policy that the government and the local units deal with, which community are we blaming? Who are they holding responsible? It is the black community, and I will show you that it's based on false causality.

Number one, I want you to draw for the lesson,

watch what I'm working with, but this is crucial for you, I'm telling you. Let me say something as an aside.

We have been saying for the past 20 years that the conflict between groups will maybe expand and explode, and it's going to get worse, because we have not come up yet with the proper diagnosis of the problem, and we keep applying inadequate therapy.

It's going to get worse.

I share the Commissioner's point about the conflict resolution, but you need to understand that we're dealing with conflict resolution in a whole different context.

If you don't relate to conflict resolution in the situation of post-modern depression, you are not going to come up with it.

For this will tell you where the blame is, and if it is not reflected in your policy, your blame, you're working on a false causality, and you will come up with wrong assumptions.

I want to list all the institutions in America that black Americans have created and controlled for 200 years. Now, number two, I want you to list all the institutions in America that white Americans have created and controlled for 300 years. List number three, all the institutions white Americans have created

and controlled for 25 years, under which white Americans have had to live. And, four, all institutions in America that white Americans have created and controlled for 300 years under which black Americans have had to live.

Now when you draw up that list I defy any of you to show me that black Americans have created any of these institutions under which they live and most surely under which white Americans live, and look what that says.

They have neither created nor controlled it, and tell me how you can ever blame them for the consequences of those institutions. It doesn't matter what it is.

What I'm trying to suggest to you is you need to start looking at things like black-on-black crime not as a cause or effect. You need to look at what you call violence as total violence, as a response to the violence that's inherent in every oppressive situation, and until you start seeing those kinds of issues from this whole different angle you will not be able to accomplish what you're trying to do.

My final point has to do with the concept of equality of opportunity. People are working on a totally erroneous understanding of what that means.

I want you to look at tracks. One side goes uphill, and one side goes down, one has rocks on it, and one has grass on it, and you have one good track. You put it all up there, and you run. Is that equality?

I've been to South Africa four times in the past two years. They didn't say.

Notice what you're saying when you say equality of opportunity. You are presupposing that the playing field has been made level, or that you are in the stages of making it level. It has not been made level. You are not in the terminal stage of making it level, so how in the hell can you go out and talk about equality of opportunity? You cannot.

Then Lyndon Johnson took it further. He said,
"We've got a level playing field." Everybody starts
at the same time, but one runner can take a way around
it. Make it level that way for a while. Make it
a race with everybody else starting at the same
time.

Is that equality of opportunity? No. Not only must the playing field be made level, but they've got to have starting gate equality, which means you've got to correct for the deficits and the defects that your present oppressive system set up.

If you haven't corrected for it and if you have

not gotten in the terminal stages of correcting it you are not talking about equality of opportunity.

My final point, and I am finished, whenever

I come before a place like this two things stand out
in my mind, one from Frederick Douglas and John King.

Douglas said, "Where justice is denied, where poverty is enforced, where ignorance prevails, and where anyone who's in the society feels that that society is an organized conspiracy to oppress it," and this is his punch line, "neither person nor property will ever be safe."

We are in this situation where persons and property are not safe. Douglas' diagnosis is what is the cause of this neither person/neither property being a safe situation? He said, "An oppression." And until you reduce oppression you will have that outcome.

Kennedy said the following, "Those who make nonviolent change impossible make violent...", and I want to add counterviolent, "...change inevitable."

Now that is your task. And I'm suggesting you go home and do a little more homework on your concept.

Thank you very much.

DR. BROWN: Ms. Cone?

MS. CONE: May I say you were in Jacksonville four or five years ago, and...

DR. JONES: I know why your face looks so

## HABERSHAW REPORTING SERVICE P. O. BOX 505 TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32302

familiar.

MS. CONE: ...and the subject of it was aging and the families.

DR. JONES: I recall. Yes, yes. Thank you.

DR. BROWN: Thank you very much. I really appreciate your efforts to be as concise with this message, and your hearing was a little longer back with the slides, and I could have listened for maybe considerably longer at the luncheon last Thursday, and so I really appreciate your efforts to capsulize these areas today.

MR. KNIGHT: I'd like to get some of the material. I realize you had it, and I would appreciate it.

DR. JONES: I would be happy to share some of the overheads. I'll put them on paper for you and so forth.

I also have to apologize. I am going to have to leave about 3:30. I found out yesterday I've got to go out of the country. I'm an asthmatic, and I have a permanent disability, and I've got to go to my doctor and get medications that I will need to take with me.

So I don't want you to think I'm angry with you or something because I leave.

MR. KNIGHT: Thank you for coming.

MS. BROWN: I'd like to say we appreciate your present of giving us a different viewpoint.

DR. JONES: I tell people I have to make up with passion what I lack with power, so that is what I did. Thank you very much.

DR. BROWN: Thank you very much. I notice that Representative Lawson has entered the room, and we'd like to ask him to offer any comments.

MR. AL LAWSON, JR.: Thank you very much. I'd like to welcome you to the City of Tallahassee on behalf of the Legislature and on behalf of the Conference of Black State Legislators.

I appreciate the opportunity to appear before
you, and I noticed that you probably have heard a lot
of information concerning racial tension and so forth in
our communities and probably more so than some of the
other ones.

I had the opportunity to grow up around this community. I grew up in Gadsden County, where it was very segregated, and most of the people in Gadsden County, the problems that they are having today is a direct result of the situation that existed during the time that I was in school.

Gadsden County was big at the time in tobacco

farming, and the kids were let out of school early in order to be able to work on the farm.

In Gadsden County as a youngster growing up everything was segretaed. I went to a segregated high school.

As I result, as you could visualize, a lot of problems. I think growing up in Gadsden County really led me to get involved in politics, because I understood at a young age that the only way you could change a lot of the problems in the community that had to be changed was through the political system.

The courthouse was an area where they had signs for colored and white. They had dippers over the water coolers for you to drink out of, and the kids. I grew up in elementaty school and junior high school with second-class books, the books where most of the pages were torn out of them, and so all of that are things that you never forget about and always remember.

In Tallahassee, Tallahassee is somewhat unique, even though it was about a stone's throw from where I lived. I worked here as a youngster. Most of the time when I graduated from the tobacco field because I was allergic to the poison in the fields to Tallahassee where in some of the retail establishments downtown, the lunch counters and so forth, at the 11th

and 12th grade it was also segregated. You had to go to the back of the 10-cent dimestore to eat.

But there was an unusual characteristic of
Tallahassee, that most people probably have not, might
or might not have shared with you.

Even though the freedom movement was going on in '66 and '70, Tallahassee was a little bit unusual, in that Florida A&M was located here, and you have a lot of professors that lived around the university, and a lot of those professors to a large extent even though there was some discrimination was able to live the good life in terms of blacks, because the banks would give them loans to build houses so long as they would build them across the track, and many of them drove Cadillacs and nice, fine cars.

As a youngster, you know, all I wanted to do was to attend college and get a job at FAMU, be able to get a nice house and a Cadillac, and I figured I would have made it.

But a lot of that had a very big impact on the community in my opinion, and the impact it had on the community is that many people did not really fight as much for equal opportunity, because they were afraid of what they might have to give up. People were able to call in loans and call in a lot of the opportunity

that was really given.

Early on there was not much racial strife within the community, simply because people that was known to be living on the hill was able to live a quality life.

The homes were second to any homes in the community, but what happened as a result of that, no one looked out for those people who lived west of the stadium, which was in the Bond community, and the people that lived northwest, which was in Frenchtown and the Springfield communities.

Those communities did not prosper and grow the way the other communities did.

So no one really cared as much about those communities other than they were in the black neighborhood.

Then as the younger kids grew up in those communities they did not return to make those communities more self-sufficient and to work to solve the crime problem and so forth.

So what we have had for a long time is we have had a separation of the races in the communities and a lack of economic development in the historically black communities, and those families that have been there for many, many years, the kids are now living in the same community with no economic progress, and so as a result the younger kids that are now those

grandkids are having kids, and with the same opportunity of dropping out of school early and because of the dropout rate there's no large dropout rate in the community, and eighth or ninth grade, and so a lot of kids speak not only here but across the State of Florida of failing school before they get into kindergarten Before they learn to color they are failing, and

2 .

:3

It's been an escalation of crime, and the problem we have in Florida and Tallahassee is that the only time that there has been more emphasis on the crime problem within the black community has been the crime on the tourists.

that's the whole part of the whole network.

A lot of people feel that one of the reasons why there's an escalation in the media is because Florida is faced with the possibility of losing money, but the same crime that took place against tourists is the same crime that takes place in the black community every day, and it would be a great thing if we had government of Florida recommending eight million dollars of money four or five years ago from emergency funds to go to the black community to stop crime, because we have elderly citizens that also would like to live a quality life and to feel safe, because our communities are invested with drugs and other things.

So that is a major concern that African Americans

have in the State of Florida, is just not the protection that they have eight million dollars for people standing around reststops, but why don't they have that eight million dollars also within the black community to make the streets safer for the people to have a quality of life?

All I can say, you see, the definite issue that most people feel and don't want to really face up to in Tallahassee, and one of the reasons they don't want to face up to it in Tallahassee is because Tallahassee is supposed to be highly educated community, because we have two universities and a community college here, and so people read. As politicians you know they read, because they are always on the back of most issues that you walk up to them on the street on, so they read, so you have a highly educated community, and a highly educated community, people like to think people are more civilized.

But what has happened in this particular community is there's still a big difference between white and black that's not been addressed.

People have a tendency to not really want to

address the black/white issues in the community. The

only time the issue is really addressed is if that comes

down to an issue between the police and the black community and groups are formulated, and meetings take place at community centers, at churches, based on the premise the police will be okay.

We live in a time where there's so much crime in our communities until there needs to be some trust between black citizens and the police, because we need the police to provide protection, and all of those situations that were magnified by the Rodney King incident is that we need people to be able to reach beyond that and say that those people are going to be punished, but the police are there to protect you as a citizen.

That's where a major problem is concerned.

Because of Florida A&M and even between Florida A&M and FSU there's not good relationships there.

They lead you to believe that there are great relationships.

I put on a tournament called the Capital City
Classic, a basketball tournament. I coached at FSU
for a number of years and worked at the university.
I put on a tournament where the two universities had
to play each other, and they played a game, and
a fight broke out just before halftime. It was a
great game, but a fight broke out.

2:

4.

We brought in some of the officials that FSU requested from the ACC that were supposed to be great officials. In my opinion they were letting the game get out of hand.

But a fight broke out. I worked very hard after the fight to pull the two universities together, those players, because the universities were not really doing it. They resented the fact even from the Board of Regents that I would want to have this meeting. They came in, and they wanted to control the situation. I told them they could not control the situation.

The reason why I wanted to do it was because the players, both of them being black that were involved in the fight, were guys who were going to see each other on a regular basis and most likely might have the opportunity to even date the same young ladies, and when a kid starts off as a freshman at the uni-ersity and then gets to be a senior you would hope the universities would be able to take these kids where most of them were from the ghetto environment, and by the time they are seniors that they will be more culturally oriented and more educated and know how to get along with each other.

I found out that that did not really occur in the athletics programs, that the athletics programs were

more concerned about winning, but not really teaching youngsters to be young men.

That's one of the things that I have spent a great deal of time doing as a coach when I was at the university.

So as a result they said, "We will never play again. We won't play, because there will always be a fight."

So we brought them together and said, "It's incomprehensible for me to say that you cannot teach people that they can play against each other in athletic competition and at the same time the Governor and everybody else was willing to get involved," and the whole purpose of the tournament was to bridge the gap within the community, but you had a lot of people, especially whites, bit people with money that gave to the institutions that did not want to do that.

I visited with the President and everyone else, and I have had the tournament for years, and they still refused to play.

But if you have a fight in the ACC with North Carolina and North Carolina State or Georgia Tech and somebody like that, they still play.

But the whole idea is that you've got to show youngsters in the community that you can move beyond

that they are always believing.

Well, if you ask them when they want to play, they say they can't talk about it.

But at the same time we had the Athletic Director at FAMU meeting with the Athletic Director at FSU and pretty much agreeing that, "No, we can't play with each other," and so forth.

thing that happened to this community if you can't resolve it. If you can't resolve racial tensions as adults, what do you expect, how are you going to resolve it with students?

Because in the seventies there was always a situation with merger of the institutions and that blacks were going to have to give up their institution, and it created a lot of hostility and concern within the community. That same hostility exists today.

It's very alive and well.

The racial tension in the community is not very good because of a lot of, a lack of opportunity and a lack of sound leadership.

You have to have leadership within, from the leaders of the community, business community as well as the university community, to recognize there is a problem, and then work towards resolving those issues.

That's what we have not been able to see.

Blacks have been placed in certain positions at institutions to get a perception that we are okay, but then if it hasn't been very healthy because they have a place in those positions, you really can't do anything about the conflict that exists in the community.

So because of the lack of opportunity and blame, high dropout rates, and environmental racism with the community allowing toxic dumps to be placed into a black community, what you find is the young people there are very intelligent, and they recognize it, so they rebell. They want to get rid of those. They want to stop anyone basically that will really get into their way.

So I don't see the type dialogue in this community that we need to have as Presidents of the institutions, more communications. We just can't communicate all the time with the police. So the police have to go to community activists, and everything is all right, but at the same time they are not doing things in the community.

With two institutions here and a community college what you see is really no real reaching out into the black community to bring up the health,

education, and welfare of those communities.

It's really a shame. But you really don't see that kind of reaching out.

We shouldn't have a problem with so much delinquency and dropouts and the inability to have kids learn how to read when we have colleges of education that are supposed to be training all those teachers, and all of the people that we are sending out into the work force.

The FSU Board of Frenchtown, the FAMU Board of the Bond community, and you would think that those unigersities if they're going to accomplish their mission, they should have armies of people out there working with people by giving them an opportunity.

I mean, what are educational institutions about?

We preach this, but it doesn't happen, because they see another mission.

In that regard I feel they have failed in the community, and the racial tension is alive and well.

If you ask me can it be resolved, it can if you are going to have real people. We have too much artificial leadership.

DR. BROWN: Thank you very much.

- MR. INGRAM: As a State Legislator, as Chair of the Congressional Black Caucuses, why can't you convene

all of the parties necessary to impact on the issue which you just said in terms of getting the right leadership together in a room and locking the doors and keeping them there until there is change?

MR. LAWSON: That's a good question. Last week was the first week in the history of the State of Florida that the Black Causes as well as black elected officials around the state called their first annual conference, and the purpose of that conference was first of all to focus in on the major issues that face the black community throughout the State of Florida.

It was a great conference. We did not get full participation from all of the black elected officials, but it was a major start to first of all identify those issues that are very important to all African Americans in the state and try to see as black elected officials whether we can do more.

Now the reason why we're asking whether we can do more is because in 1982 many of the black

Legislators was elected as a result of reapportionment, and what you also have seen at the local level is single member Districts, County Commission, City

Commission, and School Boards, so you can get more blacks elected.

2

3

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18 19

20

21

22

23

24

25

The problem we have is even although we have more blacks serving in the Legislature and the County Commission, City Commission, than any other time in our history, as most, the perception by black citizens are that once they are able to work hard and get elected they expect you to do a better job, but what happens is that they have no idea how we have to work within the system in order to be able to get things passed, and then we have the perception that we want to excell, is that black elected officials are just like any other elected officials most of the time. If you come to the Legislature and major cooperation and spend time with lobbying and telling you how good you are supposed to be, then you find out when you're seeking leadership that most of the time you find out that you really are not working on those issues to make your communities better. You find out that you basically are putting in time.

In this community we have had leadership pull together at the county and city and community action, and they are pulled together by one particular group where the City Commission might say you might have Commissioner Meisberg say, "I want to do something about drugs," and get a group of people together and are supposed to have a couple of meetings, and after a

couple of meetings it goes downhill.

I have only recently taken interest on behalf of the Caucus to try to solve the statewide problem that We have in our community, and hopefully it will spill over into the local level to call people together.

It's a very difficult thing to do, and it's an awful lot of time to do it, so you really hope that you can't solve it all, but hopefully it's a major step that we have taken in the Caucus to eventually move it down to the local level to pull those community people together to resolve those problems.

I might also point out the black churches was involved to give their opinion on the input they could have in this whole process, because they have a captured audience on Sundays among people that can spread the word to their relatives and friends about where we need to be.

So I don't know whether, how we're going to handle it in this community. I have seen so many meetings and so many concerns about trying to improve the community, but those are getting progressively worse, and the things, the kick we're on now, everybody talks about role models, and I'll tell you, the only role model that I had when I was growing up was

old Deacon Perkins and some of the other people who were uneducated, just regular Joes working in the community, and this community, role models shouldn't be an issue, because you've got more educated black people here than anywhere else in the State of Florida, Ph.D.s, MDs, lawyers, everything, so the role models and not the issue, but every group that gets together says, "We've got to get some more role models."

We really need to have leaders in the community, which I try to do, working with these parents, working with the kids, and trying to resolve this problem.

We need to put resources in the community.

We can put millions of dollars into Performing
Arts Centers and everything else that you can think
about doing in the state budget, and we can put money
into programs to resolve conflict, but if you look at
Tallahassee, it's a very beautiful place to live if you
go down certain streets. You have to look at the
budget and determine why should we be putting more
money to clean up slum areas and wipe out drugs and
make them move someplace else?

You know, that's where the issue comes, whether, it's not a question whether it's popular to do-it——with government. The issue here is whether you are

going to resolve the issue.

Most blacks feel like there is an ongoing conspiracy to keep those communities that way. It's not just Tallahassee. It's all over.

If you ask me the question can it be done, I think everyone knows that it can be done. You have to go beyond race and go beyond the responsibility to make sure that people are treated like human beings and that you bring up the housing and welfare.

We waste millions of dollars. We have billions of dollars at the state level in trust funds, and every year I try to make an attack on those trust funds to take those funds and put them into day care, Head Start, and those programs that are really going to turn the State of Florida around, but our members are more rhetoric to a large extent when they come up to the Legislature about taxes and are not willing to make that kind of commitment and take kids off the day care rolls, to teach kids, put the kids, give them an early start. It's to provide affordable health care for those families.

We always talk about welfare, about reform we're going to do to welfare, welfare reform, and you know that's just rhetoric, because the biggest welfare in my opinion is the hallways of the Legislature, because

٠.

the corporate people are there, because they are getting all the money. They get billions of dollars, and we always say we get welfare, we will get people off welfare and food stamps, and then Florida will turn around. That will never happen.

We don't ever say anything about the billions that the major corporations steal from the State of Florida, and the idea is gain. The major law firms don't practice law any more. They hang around the Legislature. That's where they get their money, and that's where the money is being drained off.

So until we come to the realization people who elected the Speakers and the Senate President have a mandate from those industries who contribute a lot of that money is to keep that money flowing, and so when you come back to ask for \$500,000 to provide training, you will not ever get rid of welfare in this country until you can provide training and the opportunity for people to get a job.

Why would you go off welfare to get a job making three-fifty or four dollars an hour? You can't take care of yourself.

We have to be realistic when it comes down to those issues. It's not an easy battle for myself and the Legislature, because when I fight those

battles it goes unnoticed, and a lot of people just like to see if they can go. But as you develop more political strength I think it's going to come, but it's not coming right now.

I did a whole lot to answer your questions, but those were things I wanted to get off of my chest.

DR. BROWN: Let me ask a quick question. You mentioned the meeting last week. Is there going to be a written summary of that meeting?

MR. LAWSON: We are in the process of putting all that information together. The reason why it's difficult to do it fast is because we only have one staff person, so there was a lot of information, but everything is on tape, and a lot of the conference was televised statewide.

The input that we got back from the evaluation was people really, really enjoyed the conference and the information on the panel. The criticism that we received was that it was not, the panel was not long enough to get the kind of information that everybody needed.

We also spent months trying to make sure that it was educational, and a lot of those people go to big Mayors' conferences and so forth.— The only — — criticism we got from them were that our party was

2 The reason I asked that is I DR. BROWN: 3 wondered if you would see that the Regional Office 4 gets a copy of the report. Bob Knight can give you 5 his card. So we'll have a copy of that. 6 MS. CONE: You mentioned the black churches. 7 Is the ministerial alliance integrated? 8 MR. LAWSON: They pretend to be, but they are 9 really not. 10 My father was a preacher, and ours are MS. CONE: 11 integrated. 12 They, a lot of the white ministers MR. LAWSON: 13 really don't participate except when there's an 14 annual Urban League banquet or something like that where 15 a Black History Month, okay, a Black History Month where 16 the white ministers will participate in the program, 17 but they don't meet on a regular basis. 18 I think that would be a good start. 19 Yes, it would be. MR. LAWSON: The most 20 segregated day in America is on Sunday. 21 MS. CONE: Also I'm a registered lobbyist, and 22 I'm a volunteer, and I get no money. We need more 23 volunteer lobbyists in the Capitol. 24 I'll tell you what, you get more MR. LAWSON: 25

not that great, but our panels were much better.

volunteer lobbyists and you'll find a lot of things would change. Don't ever let a Legislator tell you that money doesn't pay to influence us.

MR. KNIGHT: I'd like your assessment of the Black Caucus. Are you staffed and can you give us some idea of the impact of your organization on the state, this state?

MR. LAWSON: Am I staffed?

MR. KNIGHT:

MR. LAWSON: This is the first in the last six months that we've had staff. Basically the way the Caucus has operated over the last 10 years is that there has been like a looseknit organization trying to do the best you can to call a meeting.

My goal as being elected was to try to take it to another level, and I got involved in fund raising and raised money to have a staff so they can research it and communicate with the people, so this is the first year.

My tenure ended with the Caucus, but they were pleased. I didn't know if they wanted to do it, but I was re-elected to serve another term. I think the only reason is because we are trying to do things very positively and finally focus in on the issues.

I'm trying to get my colleagues in the Caucus to

look at things that you know will have a direct input on the poor citizens in the State of Florida, and you have to fight the leadership.

It's unfortunate, but you have to fight it, because it doesn't do any good to pass it and then later on come back and spend a billion dollars and have to redo the whole thing.

So now we have a staff, and we hope to be able to get other staff people in the future to be able to do the kind of work we think is needed.

(WHEREUPON, MR. INGRAM AND MR. NELSON LEFT THE MEETING ROOM.)

DR. BROWN: Thank you very much. Appreciate your coming.

MR. LAWSON: Thank you.

DR. BROWN: Brenda Joyner? Any representative of NOW?

All right. The next person on our list is

Gwen Durham with the office of Ron McElrath, the

Florida Commission on Human Relations.

And I want you to know this meeting today here would not have been possible without the assistance of the Florida Commission on Human Relations, who worked very hard to put this together, since our staff person was in Atlanta. The bulk of the effort fell on your

2

3 4

5 6

7

8

9

10

11 12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19 20

21

22

23

25

24

shoulders, so the organization thanks you.

MS. GWEN DURHAM: Thank you. As you see I'm not Ron McElrath, and most of the people here know me.

I'm Gwen Durham, and I'm here on behalf of 12 Commissioners of the Florida Commission on Human Relations, Ronald McElrath, our Executive Director, myself, and the rest of our staff.

I am the Commission's Community Relations Housing Coordinator, and Dr. Brown was correct. Let me tell you you have a good person in Atlanta that knows how to work people. So I resolved to do what I could in order to assist.

I want to just offer greetings and welcome you to Tallahassee. I don't know how familiar you are with the Florida Commission on Human Relations. you have a little familiarity with what we do? So I don't have to go through that. I know the audience recognizes what we do as well.

But I want to say something for someone who is not on the program who I think has a great deal to offer, and a lot of food for thought for you as far as this community and his being a community activist, and I'm speaking of Mussa Juggar, so I just simply want to say good afternoon, greetings, welcome, and

I hope you will get some insight into the tensions
that we have in this community as we have all over
the United States of America, and it isn't really
getting any better.

You have somebody here who can tell you something
about this particular community, I think.

DR. BROWN: Well, we will, he did sign up.

MS. DURHAM: Oh, he did sign up? Great. Okay.

DR. BROWN: We would be happy to have him before the afternoon is over.

MS. DURHAM: Terrific. He just stepped out.

DR. BROWN: He stepped out. We don't want him to leave, because we do want to speak to him.

MS. DURHAM: I'd like for you to. What you don't know that the Commission does probably, other than employment and housing discrimination, which is comparable to Title VII and Title VIII of the federal law in discrimination, is that our Statute, Chapter 760, does address the Commission attempting to make better conditions in the community between the police and community.

We don't have any more funds, and Al is gone, and the Legislature took our power away when they didn't fund us, but those are not the efforts we do. We do communicate with activists around the state in

order to keep abreast. That's it.

DR. BROWN: Thank you. I'd like to ask questions concerning, you mentioned your difficulty with funding. Can you perhaps give a comparison of how the funds in Florida rank with other states, such as South Carolina?

MS. DURHAM: Yes, very poorly, extraordinarily poorly.

For example, South Carolina is a very small state.

I think their annual funding is five times plus, theirs over ours.

The Commission is funded at 1.5 million dollars.

That has not increased since 1969 when the Legislators saw fit to put in the statute legislation that would mandate conditions under which we could work.

So that's very poor.

We have, and I'll be glad to share it with you,
I don't have it in front of me, we did a chart last
year, and it remains the same, of 12 states. I think
of the 12 states maybe five were Southern states, and
the other Midwestern states, that are smaller states
in population than Florida. What do we have, 13 point
something million people, as opposed to seven million
people in South Carolina?

They get five point something million dollars, I think, I think it is, but I know ours is 1.5.

We only have a very small staff of 36 persons and we handle 10,000 complaints in employment discrimination. The State of Florida has 3,000 people in fair housing.

Housing regulation is relatively new in the State of Florida. The first law was enacted in 1983 and amended in 1988 and 1989 to be comparable to the fair housing law.

So we need, we have no funding for community relations and for individuals trying to address this.

We have to be innovative to address strive without funds, and we do that by working as closely as we can with local human relations offices and other community activists in order to stay abreast and try to see what we can do with minimum funds to assist those communities.

We are not the state where we take care of the local jurisdictions. We don't think we are that, either.

DR. BROWN: We would appreciate it if you would send us that material.

MS. DURHAM: I'd be glad to. It's a nice, thick study. I'd be glad to send it to you.

DR. BROWN: I also would like, I mean, Florida not only being the state that's twice the population or better than South Carolina, but it's also very long. ...

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

MS. DURHAM: More diversified.

DR. BROWN: ...and spread out, north, south, east, and west. How many offices do you have?

MS. DURHAM: How many offices? We have the office in Tallahassee, and we currently just got a satellite office four years ago in Orlando, Florida.

DR. BROWN: That's a long way for somebody from Key West to Pensacola.

MS. DURHAM: It's a long way, a very long way. We are not in the southern part of the state.

(WHEREUPON, MR. NELSON ENTERED THE MEETING ROOM.)

But there are local offices who have offices comparable to the state laws.

DR. BROWN: Do you receive funding from EEOC?

MS. DURHAM: And HUD, yes, on a contract basis. That sustains us basically.

DR. BROWN: Areyou maximized on that, or is there a probability of any more money?

MS. DURHAM: There are so many complaints that we could handle, and let me tell you one of your own Commission advisory persons, Albert Nelson, there are so many complaints in the State of Florida in employment as well as in housing that we are not able to handle, because we don't have the staff, and we can't address it.

DR. BROWN: So in fact the federal government would

put more money into the state if you would handle the complaints? MS. DURHAM: Yes. DR. BROWN: It is my understanding we are, EEOC is shipping them out of Florida, because we can't process them. And the federal government is taking MS. DURHAM: work that is ours and doing it themselves, because we can't handle it. DR. BROWN: Any other questions? MS. CONE: Why do you say you can't handle it? MS. DURHAM: We don't say we can't handle it. We take them, but... MS. CONE: And it sits on the desk? MS. DURHAM: No, we investigate to the point that we can and refer them either back to the federal government... MS. CONE: Does it get handled properly? The federal government. MS. DURHAM: And the federal government is MR. KNIGHT: faced with the same situation. That's what I was referring to. DR. BROWN: With no travel funds if you file a complaint and it's shipped to Atlanta or Alabama, somebody is

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

going to be able to write a letter asking for

information from the person, and they take that information you send them, and they basically will have decided the case. MS. CONE: And it discourages people from complaining. Maybe that's what they are asking us to do. MS. DURHAM: I don't know how much it discourages them, because the process has increased 10-fold. I would say it will not do any good. MR. KNIGHT: A lot don't feel anything will

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

happen, so you don't get a good, true picture. sure we are not getting all the complaints out there.

MS. DURHAM: By no means.

MR. KNIGHT: Absolutely.

MR. NELSON: I think the Commission's responsibility is much greater than just the complaint handling. It seems to be a finite situation, but most human relations agencies were set up when they had racial tension, etcetera, to combat these situations, and as time has gone through they move them, and the whole reason, a single reason is because the state is grossly underfunded. The Florida Commission on Human Relations is grossly underfunded. They don't have sufficient staff to work the state in

97 terms of the areas where there might be racial tensions 1 where they would do it in the past, and that's due to 2 grossly underfunded by the Legislature, and you need 3 do to be funded properly and have an adequate staff. 4 So maybe part of your recommendation is the state 5 put in more funding to allow the state to get into the 6 area and do certain things. 7 Recent information in the Police Department, we 8 9

had a direct line, so that's probably, these problems we are now faced with at some point, I don't see it's the entire solution, but part of it is where we do have activists and they could contribute part of it, that would assist what we have now.

MS. DURHAM: That's right. I wasn't here when he talked about the budget, but we are not actively able to address it because of that.

Any more questions?

DR. BROWN: Thank you.

MR. KNIGHT: For everything.

DR. BROWN: Next is Sharon Ofuani with the City of Tallahassee Equal Opportunity Department.

MS. SHARON OFUANI: Thank you for this opportunity. I won't take much of your time. I know it's late, and you have had so many good comments that I heard.

I wanted to leave a report with you from the

23 24 25

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

Tallahassee Community Relations Council. It's very recent information, just July of this year, as a matter of fact.

We had a citizens group which the City Commission convened primarily as a result of the Lozano trial coming to town, and we wanted to assist community representatives and race relations because of the trial.

I am pleased to say that I do believe that the Council will be continued.

DR. BROWN: You anticipated my question.

MS. OFUANI: Yes. It will be continued, I believe. The Commission has not voted on that yet, but it will come before them this month.

But in their activities because of the trial and then of course the trial didn't come to Tallahassee, and they continued to look at the issues, they did that primarily through a form of community meetings, six of them.

We held the community meetings throughout the community, primarily using our high schools, and we tried to get across every section of the community.

We talked to over 150 people, and this report pretty much, we tried to capture the testimony, and we have done that as best we could, and it's

parts of the report tried to summarize that.

What we found in terms of the community and what they have to say about racial tension, that indeed there is racial tension in Tallahassee, as you have already heard, we categorized what the tensions were primarily, and we ended up with about I believe nine categories that people had concerns about.

Those categories were integral perceptions,
economic development, education, employment, housing,
media, religion, government, police relations, and
a special focus of course on youth community
relations, and we all understand why that was
necessary.

Most of the comments that we heard were primarily in the areas of intergroup relations, education, religion, and media relations. Those were the categories that received the most comments.

The Council then went on to give their reactions to some of the things that were being said and made a host of points to consider.

They did not call them recommendations, primarily because we did not, there was a limited time for the Council's existence, and we ran out of time.

So there was not an opportunity to really discuss

2

3 4

5 6

7

8

9 10

11

12

13

14

15 16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

a number of these items in great detail, so we merely captured them in terms of points of consideration.

The two recommendations that they did make was to simply continue the Council's work and further look into the points of consideration and for the Equal Opportunity Department to be the city staffing agency for staffing the Council.

I don't, since I'm going to leave this report I don't know if it's necessary to go into the details of what the people were saying. I think for your purposes in trying to assess the details, is there racial tension, I think this document, and as we were trying to capture it, is as closely to the exact words, almost verbatim, to the words, and it's testament that people are concerned about race relations in Tallahassee, and that they believe indeed it does exist.

A funny thing regarding your nine MR. NELSON: statements of concern, in most cities normally when there's racial tension, as opposed to here, it's not the case, because they did a good job in Tallahassee, but when you have a good commission leading into this, there are more than eight.

I didn't list them per se in the order, MS. OFUANI: -but-it was not the highest, no, sir.

MR. NELSON: So you feel the Police Department is doing an adequate job as to what the Chief said regarding the patrol? I was concerned about, just reading the article about Jefferson County, and apparently they have been doing their homework, and shifted the trial to Orlando, and I had to work extra hard as well, but nothing came out of it, so I guess my first question is apparently the relationship is somewhat more stable with the Police Department and the youngsters here?

MS. OFUANI: Let me answer by saying this. When the Council was established, primarily it really came as a result of a recommendation from the Police Department to establish the Council, and that as we thought the trial was coming here, most of the activities of the meetings that I attended, I joined the Council about five months into its existence, and the Council reviewed in great detail the police preparation for the Lozano trial, and the report does not emphasize that, because as I was sitting in on it I think they would be pleased with the progress that the Department is making.

I think the Police Department had several staff people listening to the remarks of the NAACP, what the citizens were saying, what the Urban League, just a

cross-section, SCLC, the churches, they were all represented on the Council, and much of the earlier dialogue had to be between the citizens and the Police Department, and to my knowledge now coming in as staff they were pleased with the interactions with

MR. NELSON: That's good.

the Tallahassee Police Department. .

MS. OFUANI: And the Sheriff's Department, by the way, was also included on this.

MR. NELSON: So my last comment, in essence the Sheriff's Department, the law enforcement agencies are working closely with the community even in the aftermath of what you anticipated happening, but it's an ongoing project for them?

MS. OFUANI: This report recommends that we continue to have the Police and Sheriff's Office involved with this Community Relations Council, but as an ex officio member, because we realize, we want to have a neutral posture, and we think that they should be more ex officio than on the committee, but, yes, that is an ongoing, real, remember this Council now is defunct, and we are just recommending that it be continued, and exactly what that will be is to proceed, but that is the recommendation.

I do think there is good relations so far as

I know.

MS. BROWN: I know education showed up, but you mentioned religion. Without the entire report can you talk about some of the things mentioned for religion and education in your report to the NAACP and others?

MS. OFUANI: Representative Lawson summed it up about Sunday morning being the most segregated time, and many of the people who spoke recognized that, too.

And also they feel that there is a role for religion to come into play with race relations, and they made a number of suggestions about how we might want to get the services together.

Some of the comments, for an example, why are people racist? The role of God and religion can solve problems. They have noted that the church was the place, plays into race relations because of separation.

The recommendations certainly were for us to begin to have interfaith conferences along religious lines, get ministers involved in certainly heading up the congregations and bringing us all together in terms of religion.

The whole concept, like the Sister City churches,
Sister City programs for sister churches, do things on

CONTRACTOR CONTRACTOR

on that level.

Those primarily are what we received.

MS. BROWN: Okay.

DR. BROWN: When in October, October they will be voting on it?

MS. OFUANI: Yes.

DR. BROWN: When? Do you have a date?

MS. OFUANI: If I don't have to go out of town, October 12. If I have to go out of town, two weeks from that, if that is on a Wednesday.

MR. KNIGHT: You've got a lot of press regarding the recent incidents, the murder at the reststop.

I was traveling around, and I saw a lot of it regarding the allegations that there were roundups of minority youth, and of course most of the remarks came from the Sheriff's Office. I didn't hear, at least my press coverage didn't speak a lot of the local Police Department.

I was just wondering how does that stack up?

MS. OFUANI: Well, people in Tallahassee are

rather upset about that, because that didn't happen in

Tallahassee, but it happened in Monticello, and we

certainly, I don't know what the Chief wants to say,

but we don't want to speak for, I can't speak for

the Monticello and community relations in Monticello.

HABERSHAW REPORTING SERVICE P. O. BOX 505 TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32302 1.

I know nothing about that.

So other than the incident didn't happen here, wasn't an issue for the Tallahassee Police Department, but I think the Chief had better talk about that.

MR. KNIGHT: Did that round up, that did not affect the City of Tallahassee?

MS. OFUANI: No, it did not, just public opinions about the incident.

MR. NELSON: I asked the Chief what impact did that have on Tallahassee. If it happened in Jefferson County what impact did that have on Leon County and Tallahassee?

MS. OFUANI: We are not liking it, of course.

MR. NELSON: My question was was it having any impact on Tallahassee, per se, in terms of tension, as opposed to what was happening in Jefferson County and Monticello. That was my question.

MS. OFUANI: I think all highly publicized racial incidents such as that has an impact on us as far away as L.A. had an impact on us.

DR. BROWN: That's the point. Certainly in Miami if you talk to the community, the reaction is you don't do that when it's a suspect who's white. You don't run in just sort of a blanket runin and bring people in.

TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32302

So as far as there is an impact, whatever that is, that was definitely...

MS. OFUANI: And the people always...

MR. MUSSA JUGGAR: It was the only press. I worked there four or five days. It was the press. That was the press hyping that up. I was on the streets. I organized the pickets. It was the press. I'm serious.

DR. BROWN: You're saying it was not a blanket roundup?

MR. JUGGAR: The suspects were black. The victim was white. They didn't bring in white kids, because the suspects were not white. There were no 50 or 100 rounded up. As of the day I did the press conference here they talked about peace and calmness that we in Tallahassee will support and go in and work, I had been over there three or four nights already, they only interviewed 12 kids at the most.

That report said it was nine, so they interviewed three more kids by Friday morning. There was only 12.

The Attorney General's Office didn't authorize that statement.

DR. BROWN: Let me hold you down. What I'm saying...

MR. JUGGAR: The national media was saying, - - particularly CNN, when the President of the NAACP said

Thank

they were rounding up youths, he had not contacted 1 the people in Jefferson County. 2 DR. BROWN: Let me stop you, because you are 3 here to talk, but it's very difficult for it to be 4 picked up and put in the transcript. So I understand, 5 when you come up on the stand we will repeat these 6 questions, and ... 7 I don't want to have misunderstanding MR. JUGGAR: 8 on something that was justified. 9 DR. BROWN: When you come up we'll have an 10 opportunity to do it and responses to go onto the 11 record. 12 Thank you. Any other comments? Okay. 13 you very much. 14 Thank you. MS. OFUANI: 15 MR. KNIGHT: May I get the report? 16 MS. OFUANI: Yes. 17 MR. KNIGHT: Thank you very much. 18 The next person on the list is DR. BROWN: 19 20 Roosevelt Wilson. If not, Mr. Mussa Juggar. 21 I've been handing out handouts MR. MUSSA JUGGAR: 22 for civil rights for 35 years and attending them. 23 don't know. 24

anti-civil rights, but let's talk about the youths,

During the Reagan era the National Commission began \_\_\_

--7

and the business in the Attorney General's Office, the young man was not authorized to issue that statement about 50 to 100 youths in a roundup.

CNN, the President of the NAACP, Poole, talked about the roundup of black youth.

We were talking about something that we forgot, that the victim, our sympathy goes out to the victim, his loved ones, and his companion and their families, sympathy and everything else. A life was taken.

I think the press was there, and they hyped it from a murder case to a race issue. I really, it was very, I'm very angry with the press. They knew the kids that they had interviewed. But, they knew there wasn't a roundup, but when someone makes a statement and particularly when CNN picks it up at night on national TV, and this man talks about a roundup, it wasn't a roundup.

If the suspects were white, I'd expect them to have white kids, but they were black.

We're dealing with a highly professional law enforcement Florida Department of Law Enforcement.

The Sheriff's Department in Monticello is no slouch.

I've been knowing them for 15 years. I know most of the racists who work in politics who were out front, because I have worked with the community about 35 years.

Υ.

I know both black racists and white racists, and I know those who react to racism.

I'm saying that we have to be very careful, because now we are pointing to something about the tourist being killed, the Governor is putting eight million or more into the areas outside of the inner city.

The inner city people are still being killed, yes, and maybe we may benefit from the tourist being killed, if it's the will of God. It's sad that he was killed, but some money might be spent because we've got a problem with gangs.

This morning I was talking about these gangs are not youth gangs. They are not juvenile gangs. It's organized crime.

I'm not tripping when I say it's organized crime, because the people who run and call the shots from being in the project and talking to the people, the people are older people.

These gangs are ran by 26, 27, 29 year old black males.

What about the invisible? What about the invisible leadership? They might be in New York, Colombia, Russia, or whatever, you know, but it's not these guys who are going to jail. It's the 14,\_\_\_\_

15, 16 year olds who were going to jail who were commanced and ordered to commit these criminal acts.

Ninety-seven per cent of those kids believe they are a new gang. They don't know they are being used. You're talking about negotiating with murderers.

Jim Brown may have done it, but we're not going to do it here. These kids are not used to that kind of money that they are making. Thousands of dollars are being made off the back of innocent, poor people being exploited by drug dealers.

These guys on the block are 14 and 15 who are being probably ordered to go on the block out of fear, maybe they don't want to be part of the gang, but they exploit our youth.

We see a lot of it. Yes, maybe the Executive Office and the Governor put money in it. Maybe he should send the National Guard. Maybe he should send a very sophisticated police force to deal with it, because we're losing. We have lost the war or we're losing the war on drugs.

And we're losing our future, and we're losing our youth.

When you mess around with our youth, we're tired of being dealt with, and we wonder sometimes if

racism is involved because these kids are not going to jail. If they go to jail, boom.

You had a kid, and I was talking to the Chief the other day, I wanted him off the street, and three or four times, they arrested this kid who killed.

One guy he shot openly.

There were 50 people, but no one came forward. So the Brother said we must begin policing ourselves.

No, we must begin to form a partnership,

community, government, and law enforcement. We've got to

form a partnership if we're talking about survival.

The gangs are killing us. They are throughout the country. They may imitate the gangs in L.A., but they are organized. They are very sophisticated, and at another level.

Yes, organized crime. They may not be associated with the Mafic in New York or in Chicago, you know, but they are organized, and they are very sophisticated, and somehow law enforcement may have known this but never said anything.

He said to get angry with the Police Department, because they did not call them gamgs. I told Major McNeil, "We've got gangs." I agree. We don't have gangs. We have organized crime. Ninety-seven per cent of those kids think they are in a gang. They feel

٠. ٠.

( )

a part of it.

...

But they are being exploited by these young adults and the so-called invisible level of invisible people whoever they might be.

It's organized. You can't make thousands on something put together loosely. They are organized.

You don't get people come, you know, refuse to come forward and identify you as a murderer unless you're organized. You don't get thousands of dollars a day unless you're organized. So we have to begin to look, and I'm hoping whatever area the Civil Rights Commission can do about young men throughout this country, and in Florida, that the Commission on Civil Rights, I'm hoping that you look at the youth gangs within the inner city community, because they're killing us.

It's really bad that we are so overshadowed that we said, "They had to kill a tourist to get money."

Maybe that was in the making. God is in control. Maybe the killing of a youth may bring a lot of attention to the violence.

We never negotiate stopping of violence or street violence, because there's too much money. They started making money two or three years ago after Freddie or Willie went to jail, and then now Ruby out there and

Jim know them, and they feel good about money and cars and women. They are not going to talk about no fish fry.

Like they said last week, "I'm ready to die."

I don't believe that. They don't want to confront it.

They become very soft and start crying.

But they are using our youth, and our young adult males in my community, and using these 14, 15, 16 year old kids.

So I didn't mean to get off the track, but what you heard in Miami from the press was tripping or romanticizing about, they made it a race issue. It was a murder.

It was not a race issue. It was a murder.

The law enforcement was trying to conduct an investigation.

The people, the national press was there, but they went after it, and they started talking racist, it's racist, you're rounding up 100 kids.

If they had 100 kids that were black in Monticello, it's sad to say, they picked on a few.

The kid in shackles, the Sheriff's Department didn't put him in shackles. HRS put him in shackles, because they have to put them in shackles, because that's the policy in transporting juveniles to the Detention Center.

E. S.

You know, so I'm saying a lot of the things you may have seen and heard really weren't true.

Monticello has a long way to go, like Miami has a very, very long way to go. Race relations is needed, definitely, you know.

The religious community, we sent a letter to them that the St. Pete Times misquoted sand said the one guy that was being held, we wanted cut loose. All we said that we wanted the religious community to pray for the victim, his companion, and their families.

And yet there were people out there, we said if they knew something, please come forward.

We know those people and we know the lady said the person was six foot six, and the kid who, the kid was about six three, and they rearrested him last week.

I don't know. It's a lot of things. But as Dr. Jones said, what is the cause of all this, you know? We have been exploited for 400 years, or is it the parents who are the cause of all this? I don't know.

All I know it's a mess in my community, and it's gotten worse, the mess in the community.

It's chaos out there. There's no solutions there, you know.

The social scientists, they begin to call on the black social scientists, asking them to look at things: We have black social scientists. Dr. Jones is one, Fred Seaman, Dr. Perry, people like that. We have people who work who may not have a Ph.D. who need to sit down.

We're talking about a partnership again. Law enforcement is much better than law enforcement in Miami, and that's a personal opinion. I can talk to Deputy Chief Coe and I can talk to Larry Campbell, and I ask for a lot of favors. I'm not ashamed of it. I ask for my people.

Yes, I'm not ashamed of it. I ask for favors for my people. I try to cooperate on the drive-by shootings.

This is two or three years in this area. We need everything we can do on this. They talking about shooting at the funeral. That's L.A. style. The law enforcement community was called in.

We have to have a working relationship, and I think we've got something that we don't have in most communities. We have a dialogue with law enforcement, so we've been talking about a partnership.

I think Gwen gave a conference about four years

ago with a brother from Miami to talk about partnership

ล

in law enforcement and local government.

That's got to be for real. It's got to be for real. Otherwise we're looking particularly within the inner city community, we don't have too much with the women and children, but we are really losing the young black males.

.

Crack cocaine or what have you. That's another problem. We're losing.

The black community is really crying out, "We need help," and I'm hoping that people like you all could make recommendations to the Governor and what have you, yes, let's put some money in the inner city to deal with crime prevention and put some money in bringing in jobs for the youths.

I'm sick of those kids making \$1,000 who will not quit that job to go work for McDonald's, but we could begin to start, because you're talking about only about two or three per cent of the kids who participate in that. Most of the kids are very good kids.

We are a family oriented community, and it's slipping away from us, I mean, seriously.

We need your help, whatever you can do. Maybe you all can holler louder than me. I'm not sure.

But we need your help to be a beacon for what is-



right in the community to help save the inner city communities, because it's going to be a spillover into the suburbs, and we're seeing that now. We're seeing it.

MS. CONE: A lot of these are happening in the rural areas, too.

MR. JUGGAR: Monticello is a rural area.

DR. BROWN: Thank you. Any questions? You essentially answered the question about the roundup with maybe indirect knowledge of what happened as opposed to the sort of media coverage, which is where most of the country was learning about it.

MR. JUGGAR: I think the media tried to get stories. I think they had to do it.

They were trying to interview me, and I didn't have too much to say. They was hounding people for interviews.

The man who said about his son, he saw his son in the car in the morning at two o'clock driving the victim's stolen car, that wasn't even his son. The man was drunk. It wasn't even his son. It was his former stepson. He didn't know it. But the press played that up and said, "This man has told on someone. He can identify the person driving the car of the victim."

3

4

5 6

7

8

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

MR. KNIGHT: That's very significant in terms of, you know, your reaction to the press, and this is not the only community.

We have been, I have been actively invited, of course we have to notify the prsss by law for coverage, but I have been assisting in getting reactions like this from trying to invite the media and the press in, and so they, the prss can speak and say the what happened, because there is concern in our community that it appears that crime when you see pictures of crime that you automatically perceive the minority, and that keeps going over and over. Does the press feel that responsibility? Is there any effort to your knowledge in the community where at least there is dialogue or trying to bring about dialogue to get the press' feelings and reactions as to how they are reporting or how they are not reporting? any effort at all, or is this in the community related data?

MR. JUGGAR: I think this community is. The press sometimes dogs you.

I think sometimes they just, you know, just goes with what they believe happened. They try to get you to accept the theory that they think this, and they say, "Don't you think this guy is a little conservative?" --

They wanted us to say it was racist. And we said, "No, I don't think so." They say, "How can you say that?" Off the record, if you're trying to get elected.

The press plays a role, a huge role in what we are interpreting. A lot of times it is very biased.

I think the relationship should be people just trying to talk to the press and hoping they will do something with it.

So far as the black-on-black crime, we have a black woman who was missing for quite a while, and the press done a little, small story. We had a quite Principal at a school who was missing, and they covered the front page for three or four days, and she went off to get away from everybody.

So I'm saying we talk to the punishment, and the assignment editors of the media about this, and they say, "Well, we covered that story."

"But you don't understand about the missing black woman we haven't found yet."

The only one doing anything about that was the Sheriff's Department. These pictures were out all over the Big Bend area, but the press done a real small picture of her and a real small story, and I say that's bias.

She's a person. She's well known. She's a business woman. What is she, a poor black woman?

MS. BROWN: I think you clarified it. You mentioned the national media. I want to get some input from you.

What locally was done? Did the media here play into the national hype, or what was their response? What happened?

MR. DUGGAR: There have been rebuttals. About the gentleman who said he saw his son driving the car, no, he saw his son driving the car the night at two o'clock, se discussed this at the Sheriff's Office outside with the media. The man was drinking. The press smelled alcohol. We said, "Don't run that, because he's drunk." You know, he was crying to me about they had placed his son in jail, and he was very afraid that they may hurt or kill his son, and come to find out it wasn't even his son.

Then they came back to me about an hour later and he said, "He's really my stepson." Then he came back and said, "I know his mother."

We told the press, and some of the press was very nice, but the national, CBS and a couple of those, they wouldn't even use it. They smelled the alcohol.

The press is out to get a story. We're talking about money and selling sales, selling commercials. They wanted to hype it.

I think that people like you all are the people that seem to have the ray of hope and I hope the ear of the Governor and people in high places. We need to emphasize we must take back our streets in the inner city community. I mean, not only the senior citizens, but the ordinary citizens are being robbed and stuff.

We've got a budget. We've got to bring in more money for a lot of things, and crime is our number one problem. A lot of people said, "No, racism is our number one problem."

I'm not a social scientist. I want to get that kid off that, and Willie was a 92-year old lady who was on fixed income, and they break in and steal her money and things, and she died with a broken heart. I was fond of her.

MR. KNIGHT: I heard a comment regarding forging a partnership. I think you indicated government and law enforcement. Do you see...

MR. JUGGAR: And the community.

MR. KNIGHT: ...any evidence of this, moving in that direction?

MR. JUGGAR: Here Gwen of the Human Rights,
they started off back in '85 with that, and they have
been like the thing they went on in '86, tried to
get with them, and we formed a relationship with
Chief Coe, people from the Sheriff's Department, and
we have, and now we've got people that we call friends
in the law enforcement community who were concerned,
and we looked at it, and they have invested within

the community.

We've got a Sgt. Maurice Laws who's with NAACP and everybody, and most of the officers now who live in the black community are investing in the black community, because we formed that relationship.

We have differences, you know. Sometimes the press misquotes us and things. We disagree. But we know that we've got to work together. If not our community is gone.

We're talking about survival, and it's very important that we survive.

Too many people are getting killed. This is not
Miami or Tampa. This is the sleepy hills in Tallahassee,
a family community.

We want to move back to that. Ten years ago we had it. Somehow drugs and organized crime came in, whether you want to believe it or not.



They came in, and they have been making a lot of money off our people.

We are suffering. We are crying out to you.

If the Governor wants to spend money and for good,
well and good, but let's spend some money in the inner
cities and fight crime.

Crime prevention is something that you need to begin to echo the crime prevention, because we are talking about three per cent of the people doing all the damage, and that's really bad that, you know, you are blaming other kids or looking at the race itself as part of the criminal element.

It isn't true. It isn't true at all.

Somehow the media is at fault. But we will overcome, because Dr. King told us we would overcome, and we see different things that are wrong, whether black or white.

It can't be race, because God said he created us from a single path, made us to derive a nation, not that you may despise each other, and the best among us is righteous.

We have to talk to kids about that and explain that, because it's not about color. We are all the children of Adam and Eve, and we should be about that.

 We are talking about love and I'm hoping that programs will help. They were talking about churches. We're suggesting a Primitive Baptist Day in Killearn, come to the inner city, and they changed days and began to talk about love, and the people who say we can't do it, then the kids who are integrated about the system will not look at it.

Racism is going to win. Dr. Jones and them look at it different. I think it is a mental disorder.

Anybody who bases it on color must be mentally ill.

Are you saying something is wrong with God?

Whatever you can do to help the movement or to help solve the problem we would welcome you. We've got a lot of problems.

DR. BROWN: Thank you very much. We appreciate it.

MR. KNIGHT: Thank you, sir.

DR. BROWN: Is there anybody else who came in after I asked people who wished to come before us to fill out a card?

If not, we will conclude the process of taking information from the citizens here.

I would like to add if you have a few minutes if

I could take five minutes for a break and take a look

at whether or not there are specific actions we might

be able to take at this point, given the information we have taken.

I realize most will have to wait until we have gone through the transcript and study it, but there may be some things that we can at least take initial action on.

Let's take a short, five-minute break, since everybody has been sitting since noon or shortly thereafter. We'll then come back.

(WHEREUPON, THE MEETING WAS CONCLUDED AT 4:15 P.M.)

\* \* \* \* \*

## CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

STATE OF FLORIDA )

3 COUNTY OF LEON

1

2

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

I, SUE HABERSHAW JOHNSON, Certified Court Reporter,
Registered Professional Reporter, and Notary Public in and
for the State of Florida at Large:

DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing <u>meeting</u>
was taken before me at the time and place designated; that
my shorthand notes were thereafter reduced to typewriting
under my supervision; and the foregoing pages, numbered 1
through 125, are a true and correct record of the
proceedings.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am not a relative, employee, attorney, or counsel of any of the parties, nor relative or employee of such attorney or counsel.

CERTIFIED THIS 30TH DAY OF OCTOBER , A.D. 1993 ,
IN THE CITY OF TALLAHASSEE, COUNTY OF LEON, STATE OF FLORIDA.

SUE HABERSHAW JOHNSON

STATE OF FLORIDA )

COUNTY OF LEON )

The aforegoing instrument was acknowledged before me this 30th day of October , A.D. 1993, by SUE HABERSHAW JOHNSON, who is personally known to me.

INSON, who is personally known to me.

CHRISTINE WHEELER
Notary #AA711091

Notary Public, State of Florida My Commission Expires 10/12/97 Bonded Through Troy-Fain Insurance

HABERSHAW REPORTING SERVICE P. O. BOX 505

TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32302

