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October 11, 2010

**By Electronic and First-Class Mail**

Gerald A. Reynolds  
Chairman  
United States Commission on Civil Rights  
624 Ninth Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20425

Re: New Black Panther Party Investigation

Dear Chairman Reynolds:


I write on behalf of the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc. ("LDF") concerning comments made during the Commission's hearings conducted as part of its New Black Panther Party inquiry. During those hearings, it was stated that LDF encouraged or lobbied the Department of Justice ("DOJ") to drop or take some other action with respect to DOJ's New Black Panther Party litigation. These statements are absolutely untrue.

Neither LDF nor any of its staff ever urged DOJ to take any action with respect to the New Black Panther Party litigation. LDF played no role in, and conducted no advocacy around, DOJ's New Black Panther Party litigation. Statements that LDF, or any of its staff, sought to influence the matter or to limit the scope of the litigation in any respect are false.

LDF has long urged that DOJ increase, not decrease, its investigations of allegations of voter intimidation. We continue to urge DOJ to aggressively pursue voter intimidation. Doing so is an essential part of any meaningful strategy to ensure that the right to vote is a reality for all Americans.

I request that this letter be included in the official record of the Commission's New Black Panther Party Investigation.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeffrey D. Robinson  
Associate Director-Counsel  
Programs and Administration