

# NAACP

**COBB COUNTY BRANCH**  
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## *About Us*

### Oscar Freeman 1982 - 86



Mr. Freeman was the Membership Chairperson from 1980 until 1982. He took the membership from 37 members to over 400 in just two years. Mr. Freeman became President in 1983, and with assistance of many great committee members and the community at large, many goals were accomplished under his administration. The first NAACP branch office opened at Strick's Grill. We had outgrown the small facility when we moved in, but at least we had a physical location to operate from. Another door was opened in 1984 and we relocated to the present location at the corner of Barnes Road and Roswell Street.

One of Mr. Freeman's many accomplishments included the launch of "Operation Fair Share" in 1983. In 1984 the first major Freedom Fund Banquet was held at the Waverly Hotel with more than 350 people in attendance. Also in that year, the NAACP sponsored a march, led by Reverend Hosea Williams, on Forsyth County against the Klu Klux Klan. The first "Advocacy Program", designed to train and find job placement for the citizens of Cobb County, was also established that year.

In 1983 the Cobb branch of the NAACP was also very proud to organize its first youth chapter. Two years later, the first College Chapter of the NAACP was organized at Kennesaw State University. In

1986, the NAACP organized the Martin Luther King Support Group. The charter and responsibility of this group was to ensure that Dr. King's birthday was recognized annually. The next year, a "Youth Rally" was held to celebrate the NAACP's victory in helping to pave the way for the legalization of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday as a national holiday.

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*In 1987 racial tensions again erupted in Forsyth County. In January a small march in Cumming to commemorate Martin Luther King Jr. 's birthday met with resistance from local members of the Ku Klux Klan, who threw stones and glass bottles at the demonstrators. The event received national attention, and on January 24, 20,000 marchers from around the country converged on Forsyth County. Led by numerous civil rights leaders, including Hosea Williams, the marchers encountered 1,000 to 2,000 counterdemonstrators, but the presence of large numbers of police and National Guard troops most likely kept the event from turning violent. The event was one of the largest civil rights demonstrations since the 1960s...*



**FORSYTH COUNTY, GEORGIA, PETITIONER v. THE NATIONALIST  
MOVEMENT**

SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

505 U.S. 123

June 19, 1992, Decided



1987 civil rights march in Forsyth County, Georgia (photo by Jeff Slate)

**JUSTICE BLACKMUN delivered the opinion of the Court.**

In this case, with its emotional overtones, we must decide whether the free speech guarantees of the First and Fourteenth Amendments are violated by an assembly and parade ordinance that permits a government administrator to vary the fee for assembling or parading to reflect the estimated cost of maintaining public order.

I

Petitioner Forsyth County is a primarily rural Georgia county approximately 30 miles northeast of Atlanta. It has had a troubled racial history. In 1912, in one month, its entire African-American population, over 1,000 citizens, was driven systematically from the county in the wake of the rape and murder of a white woman and the lynching of her accused assailant. Seventy-five years later, in 1987, the county population remained 99% white.

Spurred by this history, Hosea Williams, an Atlanta city councilman and civil rights personality, proposed a Forsyth County "March Against Fear and Intimidation" for January 17, 1987. Approximately 90 civil rights demonstrators attempted to parade in Cumming, the county seat. The marchers were met by members of the Forsyth County Defense League (an independent affiliate of respondent, The Nationalist Movement), of the Ku Klux Klan, and other Cumming residents. In all, some 400 counterdemonstrators lined the parade route, shouting racial slurs. Eventually, the counterdemonstrators, dramatically outnumbering police officers, forced the parade to a premature halt by throwing rocks and beer bottles.

Williams planned a return march the following weekend. It developed into the largest civil rights demonstration in the South since the 1960's. On January 24, approximately 20,000



marchers joined civil rights leaders, United States Senators, Presidential candidates, and an Assistant United States Attorney General in a parade and rally. The 1,000 counterdemonstrators on the parade route were contained by more than 3,000 state and local police and National Guardsmen. Although there was sporadic rock throwing and 60 counterdemonstrators were arrested, the parade was not interrupted. The demonstration cost over \$ 670,000 in police protection, of which Forsyth County apparently paid a small portion.

"As a direct result" of these two demonstrations, the Forsyth County Board of Commissioners enacted Ordinance 34 on January 27, 1987. The ordinance recites that it is "to provide for the issuance of permits for parades, assemblies, demonstrations, road closings, and other uses of public property and roads by private organizations and groups of private persons for private purposes"... Ordinance 34 was amended on June 8, 1987, to provide that every permit applicant "shall pay in advance for such permit, for the use of the County, a sum not more than \$ 1,000.00 for each day such parade, procession, or open air public meeting shall take place." In addition, the county administrator was empowered to "adjust the amount to be paid in order to meet the expense incident to the administration of the Ordinance and to the maintenance of public order in the matter licensed."

In January 1989, respondent The Nationalist Movement proposed to demonstrate in opposition to the federal holiday commemorating the birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr. In Forsyth County, the Movement sought to "conduct a rally and speeches for one and a half to two hours" on the courthouse steps on a Saturday afternoon. The county imposed a \$ 100 fee. The fee did not include any calculation for expenses incurred by law enforcement authorities, but was based on 10 hours of the county administrator's time in issuing the permit. The county administrator testified that the cost of his time was deliberately undervalued and that he did not charge for the clerical support involved in processing the application.

The Movement did not pay the fee and did not hold the rally. Instead, it instituted this action on January 19, 1989, in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Georgia, requesting a temporary restraining order and permanent injunction prohibiting Forsyth County from interfering with the Movement's plans....

We granted certiorari to resolve a conflict among the Courts of Appeals concerning the constitutionality of charging a fee for a speaker in a public forum.

## II

Respondent mounts a facial challenge to the Forsyth County ordinance. It is well established that in the area of freedom of expression an overbroad regulation may be subject to facial review and invalidation, even though its application in the case under consideration may be constitutionally unobjectionable. This exception from general standing rules is based on an appreciation that the very existence of some broadly written laws has the potential to chill the expressive activity of others not before the court. Thus, the Court has permitted a party to challenge an ordinance under the overbreadth doctrine in cases where every application creates an impermissible risk of suppression of ideas, such as an ordinance that delegates overly broad discretion to the decisionmaker, and in cases where the ordinance sweeps too broadly, penalizing a substantial amount of speech that is constitutionally protected.



The Forsyth County ordinance requiring a permit and a fee before authorizing public speaking, parades, or assemblies in "the archetype of a traditional public forum." Although there is a "heavy presumption" against the validity of a prior restraint, the Court has recognized that government, in order to regulate competing uses of public forums, may impose a permit requirement on those wishing to hold a march, parade, or rally. Such a scheme, however, must meet certain constitutional requirements. It may not delegate overly broad licensing discretion to a government official. Further, any permit scheme controlling the time, place, and manner of speech must not be based on the content of the message, must be narrowly tailored to serve a significant governmental interest, and must leave open ample alternatives for communication.

A

Respondent contends that the county ordinance is facially invalid because it does not prescribe adequate standards for the administrator to apply when he sets a permit fee. A government regulation that allows arbitrary application is "inherently inconsistent with a valid time, place, and manner regulation because such discretion has the potential for becoming a means of suppressing a particular point of view." To curtail that risk, "a law subjecting the exercise of First Amendment freedoms to the prior restraint of a license" must contain "narrow, objective, and definite standards to guide the licensing authority." The reasoning is simple: If the permit scheme "involves appraisal of facts, the exercise of judgment, and the formation of an opinion," by the licensing authority, "the danger of censorship and of abridgment of our precious First Amendment freedoms is too great" to be permitted.

In evaluating respondent's facial challenge, we must consider the county's authoritative constructions of the ordinance, including its own implementation and interpretation of it. The ordinance can apply to any activity on public property -- from parades, to street corner speeches, to bike races -- and the fee assessed may reflect the county's police and administrative costs. Whether or not, in any given instance, the fee would include any or all of the county's administrative and security expenses is decided by the county administrator.

In this case, according to testimony at the District Court hearing, the administrator based the fee on his own judgment of what would be reasonable. Although the county paid for clerical support and staff as an "expense incident to the administration" of the permit, the administrator testified that he chose in this instance not to include that expense in the fee. The administrator also attested that he had deliberately kept the fee low by undervaluing the cost of the time he spent processing the application. Even if he had spent more time on the project, he claimed, he would not have charged more. He further testified that, in this instance, he chose not to include any charge for expected security expense.

The administrator also explained that the county had imposed a fee pursuant to a permit on two prior occasions. The year before, the administrator had assessed a fee of \$ 100 for a permit for the Movement. The administrator testified that he charged the same fee the following year (the year in question here), although he did not state that the Movement was seeking the same use of county property or that it required the same amount of administrative time to process. The administrator also once charged bike-race organizers \$ 25 to hold a race on county roads, but he did not explain why processing a bike-race permit demanded less administrative time than processing a parade permit or why he had



chosen to assess \$ 25 in that instance. At oral argument in this Court, counsel for Forsyth County stated that the administrator had levied a \$ 5 fee on the Girl Scouts for an activity on county property. Finally, the administrator testified that in other cases the county required neither a permit nor a fee for activities in other county facilities or on county land.

Based on the county's implementation and construction of the ordinance, it simply cannot be said that there are any "narrowly drawn, reasonable and definite standards," guiding the hand of the Forsyth County administrator. The decision how much to charge for police protection or administrative time -- or even whether to charge at all -- is left to the whim of the administrator. There are no articulated standards either in the ordinance or in the county's established practice. The administrator is not required to rely on any objective factors. He need not provide any explanation for his decision, and that decision is unreviewable. Nothing in the law or its application prevents the official from encouraging some views and discouraging others through the arbitrary application of fees. The First Amendment prohibits the vesting of such unbridled discretion in a government official.

B

The Forsyth County ordinance contains more than the possibility of censorship through uncontrolled discretion. As construed by the county, the ordinance often requires that the fee be based on the content of the speech.

The county envisions that the administrator, in appropriate instances, will assess a fee to cover "the cost of necessary and reasonable protection of persons participating in or observing said . . . activity." In order to assess accurately the cost of security for parade participants, the administrator "must necessarily examine the content of the message that is conveyed," estimate the response of others to that content, and judge the number of police necessary to meet that response. The fee assessed will depend on the administrator's measure of the amount of hostility likely to be created by the speech based on its content. Those wishing to express views unpopular with bottle throwers, for example, may have to pay more for their permit.

Although petitioner agrees that the cost of policing relates to content, it contends that the ordinance is content neutral because it is aimed only at a secondary effect -- the cost of maintaining public order. It is clear, however, that, in this case, it cannot be said that the fee's justification "has nothing to do with content."

The costs to which petitioner refers are those associated with the public's reaction to the speech. Listeners' reaction to speech is not a content-neutral basis for regulation. Speech cannot be financially burdened, any more than it can be punished or banned, simply because it might offend a hostile mob....

**CHIEF JUSTICE REHNQUIST, with whom JUSTICE WHITE, JUSTICE SCALIA, and JUSTICE THOMAS join, dissenting.**

\*\*\*\*In *Cox v. New Hampshire* (1941) we confronted a state statute which required payment of a license fee of up to \$ 300 to local governments for the right to parade in the public streets. The Supreme Court of New Hampshire had construed the provision as requiring that the amount of the fee be adjusted based on the size of the parade, as the fee "for a circus parade or a celebration procession of length, each drawing crowds of



observers, would take into account the greater public expense of policing the spectacle, compared with the slight expense of a less expansive and attractive parade or procession." Under the state court's construction, the fee provision was "not a revenue tax, but one to meet the expense incident to the administration of the Act and to the maintenance of public order in the matter licensed." This Court, in a unanimous opinion by Chief Justice Hughes, upheld the statute, saying: "There is nothing contrary to the Constitution in the charge of a fee limited to the purpose stated."

Two years later, in *Murdock v. Pennsylvania* (1943), this Court confronted a municipal ordinance that required payment of a flat license fee for the privilege of canvassing door-to-door to sell one's wares. Pursuant to that ordinance, the city had levied the flat fee on a group of Jehovah's Witnesses who sought to distribute religious literature door-to-door for a small price. The Court held that the flat license tax, as applied against the hand distribution of religious tracts, was unconstitutional on the ground that it was "a flat tax imposed on the exercise of a privilege granted by the Bill of Rights." In making this ruling, the Court distinguished *Cox* by stating that "the fee is not a nominal one, imposed as a regulatory measure and calculated to defray the expense of protecting those on the streets and at home against the abuses of solicitors."

The situations in *Cox* and *Murdock* were clearly different; the first involved a sliding fee to account for administrative and security costs incurred as a result of a parade on public property, while the second involved a flat tax on protected religious expression. I believe that the decision in *Cox* squarely controls the disposition of the question presented in this case, and I therefore would explicitly hold that the Constitution does not limit a parade license fee to a nominal amount.

Instead of deciding the particular question on which we granted certiorari, the Court concludes that the county ordinance is facially unconstitutional because it places too much discretion in the hands of the county administrator and forces parade participants to pay for the cost of controlling those who might oppose their speech. But, because the lower courts did not pass on these issues, the Court is forced to rely on its own interpretation of the ordinance in making these rulings. The Court unnecessarily reaches out to interpret the ordinance on its own at this stage, even though there are no lower court factual findings on the scope or administration of the ordinance. Because there are no such factual findings, I would not decide at this point whether the ordinance fails for lack of adequate standards to guide discretion or for incorporation of a "heckler's veto," but would instead remand the case to the lower courts to initially consider these issues.....

### **Exploring Constitutional Law**























December-January 1982-83



### New NAACP Officers Installed

The Cobb County chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People installed officers for 1983-1985 at services at Zion Baptist Church on Lemon Street in Marietta Sunday. Speakers included Marietta Mayor Bob Flournoy and Ozell Sutton of the U.S. Justice Department. New officers are (L-R) president Oscar Freeman Jr., vice president Thomas Knox, third vice president Annie Solomon, treasurer John Thomas Kilgore, second vice president Lindsey Scott, secretary Gloria Miller. (Staff Photo by John Rossino)



exhaust-filled freeway, but from hidden dangers right within your home.

"Many scientists warn that pollution inside our homes and office frequently reaches concentrations that would be illegal out-of-doors," says an article in Reader's Digest."

"Since the typical American spends 90 percent of each day indoors, pollution here

but it can be as lethal as other forms of pollution, says Lowell Ponte, author of "The Menace of Indoor Pollution" in the February Reader's Digest.

"Indoor smog is becoming dangerous now because, as we weatherstrip and caulk and insulate our homes to conserve energy, we have turned our homes into closed bottles that get little fresh air from

the outside world. The biggest danger is carbon monoxide poisoning caused by cooking with gas stoves and heaters in poorly ventilated kitchens.

In a study by Dr. Frank E. Speizer of Harvard University Medical School, children from homes using gas stoves suffered up to 15 percent more respiratory illnesses, the article says.

and radiation from common building materials such as granite, brick and cement.

Kerosene heaters, the article says, can put carbon monoxide and nitrogen dioxide into a room many times the level permitted by the Environmental Protection Agency.



## New NAACP Officers Installed

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Today is the day <sup>which</sup> traditionally  
our good resolutions are put  
to the test. Historically, it is  
a day full of good intentions  
and, happiness, of the beginning  
of the triumphs of good.

Today is  
It was on this day



# NAACP awards Cobb residents

Mack Eppinger, of Eppinger and Sons Funeral Home, was one of 13 Cobb County residents honored Saturday night at the Cobb NAACP's fifth annual Freedom Fund Awards Banquet.

Eppinger received the distinguished President's Award from chapter president Oscar R. Freeman, "for his sense of community responsibility and long hours spent in the service and defense of his fellow man," according to the award plaque.

In presenting the award, Freeman said Eppinger runs his business on a daily basis but manages to donate many hours to the NAACP and allows the organization to use his facilities at all times.

Eppinger said the award was "the surprise of my life."

The Cobb County chapter of the NAACP holds a banquet every year to honor community residents who have "exemplified outstanding achievement in respected areas," Freeman said at the beginning of the program. This year's banquet was held at the Waverly Hotel in the Galleria and attended by over 600 members and guests.

The guest speaker at the banquet was Atlanta Mayor Andrew Young who reviewed the black movement and its changes over time.

Young said the civil rights movement is basically a political one now, with blacks needing to participate in the political arena and exercise their right to vote.

"We need to start talking right now about the importance of this general election which will determine the leaders of our cities,

counties, and what kind of direction our president will have for the next four years," Young said. "Your goal should be to get at least 100 people you come in contact with to vote."

Following Young's speech and a varied program which included words from local leaders and entertainment by Oral Moses, an assistant professor of music at Kennesaw College, and Johnson & Company, the awards were presented.

The Freedom Fund awards were decided upon by an awards committee and presented by Sarah Nichols, head of the committee.

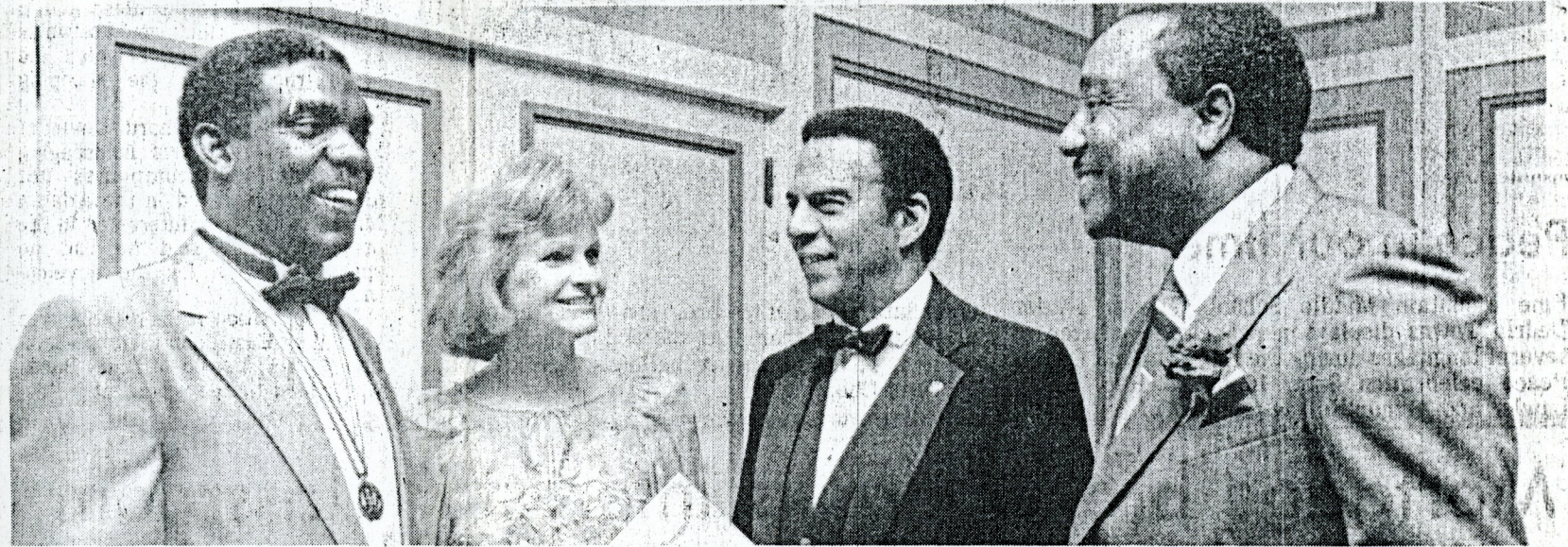
H.E. and Evelyn Shelton, of Hanley-Shelton Funeral Home in Marietta, were chosen to receive the business, social, religious and civic involvement in the community.

The community award was presented to Barbara Bruegger, executive director of the Cobb YWCA for 13 years, for her innovative services with the YWCA and promotion of race relations.

The Cobb YWCA was one of four chapters to receive an award from the national YWCA in 1985 for its work in racial justice, Bruegger said.

Three young people were honored by the NAACP for their achievements in the area of education.

Also recognized at the banquet was Pearl Freeman, chairman of the Freedom Fund committee, Thomas Carter, and Barbara Head.



Staff photo by Tami Chappell

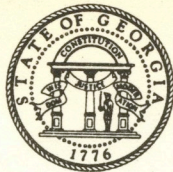
**WELCOMING:** Attending the Freedom Fund Awards banquet Saturday were, from left, Oscar Freeman Jr., president of the Cobb chapter; Marietta Mayor Vicki Chastain; Atlanta Mayor Andrew Young and banquet organizer Winston Strickland.



Staff photo by Tami Chappell

**AWARD WINNERS:** Honored at Freedom Fund Awards banquet were, from left, H. Shelton; E. Shelton; P. Myers, accepting for son Bernard; B. Bruegger; P. Banks, accepting for son Bernard, A. Johnson; C. Bonner and A. Porter.





OFFICE OF LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

240 STATE CAPITOL  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334

ZELL MILLER  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

MARTI PINGREE  
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

April 25, 1985

Mr. Oscar Freeman  
President, Cobb County Branch  
National Association for the  
Advancement of Colored People  
P. O. Box 598  
Marietta, Georgia 30060

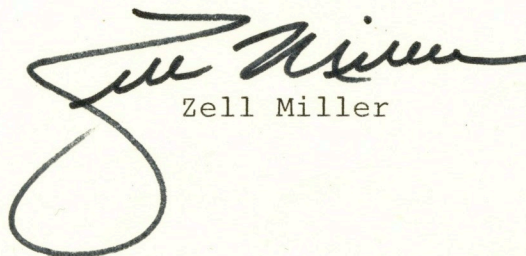
Dear Oscar:

I read in THE ATLANTA CONSTITUTION of your re-election as President of the Cobb County Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and I want to congratulate you upon that endorsement of your leadership and to wish you every success as you continue it.

Please also convey my felicitations to Pearl upon her election as Secretary and to the other new officers and my hope that you and they will call on me whenever I can be of service to any of you, the Cobb County Branch or the NAACP in any way, personally or officially.

With warmest personal regards and every good wish.

At your service,

  
Zell Miller

ZM/db



OSCAR

PREAMBLE

The signing of this document by the City of Marietta in no way implies that the City of Marietta has not made a concerted effort to meet the needs and concerns of minorities in Cobb County. Rather, it is to magnify in some symbolic way that the City of Marietta is concerned about all segments of the society in Cobb County and is willing to go on record saying so by participating in this agreement.

The intent of this agreement is to represent all segments of the society in Cobb County that are interested in the activities stated in this agreement. In the event that the City of Marietta is asked by any other groups to join in an agreement, the City of Marietta has the option of referring such a group to the Cobb County Branch of the NAACP.

The Cobb County Branch of the NAACP believes that the activities addressed in this agreement should be approached by a partnership effort of both the City of Marietta and the Cobb County NAACP Branch. Therefore, the Cobb County NAACP Branch will assist the city whenever called upon for help with the activities addressed in this agreement.



**CITY OF MARIETTA**  
**DECLARATION OF FAIR SHARE PRINCIPLES**  
**WITH**  
**THE COBB COUNTY BRANCH OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION**  
**FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE**

The City of Marietta has long been aware that it is inextricably bound with the communities it serves. The city's growth, well-being and prosperity will derive from the growth, employment, healthy economies and well being of the communities it services. The City of Marietta recognizes that its interests in these communities range beyond their cultivation as favorable business environments. These are communities in which many of the City of Marietta's employees live, are educated and raise families.

The City of Marietta and its employees have made numerous contributions over the years to the communities we serve. These expressions of corporate and individual citizenship certainly will continue in the future. The nature of the City's commitment in the future must be measured in light of the fast changing reality of the American scene. The City of Marietta is of the view that each generation of this Government and Government leadership must re-examine the notion of corporate social responsibility in the context of the necessities of its time. This is a sound and sensible business approach, as well as, good citizenship.

To this end, the City of Marietta and the Cobb County Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, hereinafter referred to as the NAACP, seek to re-articulate, and clarify the ever evolving concept of corporate social responsibility.

The NAACP is a long standing organization dedicated to ensuring civil rights and creating and increasing economic and social opportunities for Black Americans. The Fair-Share Principles stated herein are intended to set forth mutually beneficial goals that the City of Marietta has supported in the past, and will continue to support, and affirm as desirable for socially responsible corporate citizens.

The City of Marietta will continue affirmatively to ensure that the full measure of its business and employment opportunities, consistent with its appointing, promotion and hiring procedures, are given to all persons.

Accordingly, the City of Marietta will continue Affirmative Action programs as are practical and feasible in several areas of mutual concern, namely: Management and Employment Opportunities, Purchasing and Minority Business Development and Rehabilitation of Minority Housing.

**A. Management and Employment Opportunities**

A current and continuing goal of the City of Marietta's Affirmative Action Plan is the recruitment, employment and retention of identified minority group members to include handicapped individuals.



Target goals are modified or expanded each year based on feedback from annual EEO4 reporting requirements in conjunction with anticipated staffing requirements, turnover, required skill level availability, continued review of bonafied occupational requirements, Co-op and on the job training availability in each department of the City and Board of Lights and Water.

The Personnel Director who is designated as the Affirmative Action Officer maintains all employment applications along with position opening notices, recruitment correspondence and published notices of employment opportunities in accordance with current State and Federal record retention requirements. Minority applicants who meet minimum qualifications including handicapped and female applicants' files are maintained and routinely resubmitted for future position openings.

### Reaffirmation of EEO Policy Statement

The City established and adopted a written Affirmative Action Compliance Plan in 1975 which is periodically updated to insure the broadest base of equal employment opportunity. The plan provides guidance to city department heads with respect to the city's continued commitment to the implementation and realization of its EEO and Affirmative Action Policy. The city's policy includes the following commitments:

1. To continue providing equal employment opportunities to all qualifiable applicants and to continue to recruit, hire, promote train and compensate persons in all positions without regard to race, color, religion, age, sex, national origin or handicap.

2. To continue to monitor and evaluate all phases of the employment process for insured compliance with the established city EEO/AA goals. Specific examples include:

- a. Recruitment and Selection - All position vacancies are prominently posted in areas of public access throughout city facilities with EEO statements. The Personal Department contacts all available known sources of potential minority /female and handicapped applicants and makes referrals of such known applicants to other agencies. → male
- b. Promotion and Transfers - All positions open within the City of Marietta and Marietta Board of Lights and Water above entry level are held open for five (5) working days and notices of the openings are posted in each department prior to considering outside applicants in order to insure the promotion and upgrade of all potential employees. Known minority member employees and females are routinely contacted directly by the Personnel Department regarding these openings and are encouraged to apply.

The administration of all aspects of personnel matters regarding compensation, benefits, educational assistance, city sponsored formal training, and all personnel matters regarding promotion, transfer or disciplinary action is carried out without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin or handicap. Said administration is continually reviewed and periodically evaluated by the City Council to insure compliance with the city established EEO/AA plan.



## AFFIRMATIVE POLICY FOR CITY APPOINTMENTS

The elected officials of the City of Marietta will actively seek, nominate and confirm minority citizens to fill appointed positions within city government and separate Boards/Commissions authorized by the city or having city membership.

### B. Purchasing and Minority Business Development

The city will make every reasonable effort to increase the dollar volume of business which it transacts with minority businesses.

The city will make affirmative efforts to locate and identify potential minority vendors in Cobb County with capabilities to provide needed goods and services to the city. Working with the NAACP a Directory of Minority Businesses in the service area will be developed and used as a resource guide.

The city will review in the next year the potential for its use of minority-owned professional services in such areas as marketing research, computer programming, public relations, law, advertising and other areas of professional services. The city will continue to work with the NAACP to achieve the goal of reasonable use of minority professional firms and services.

As a city government, the City of Marietta will exert every effort to work on solutions to enhance minority participation in all areas of upward-mobility as it relates to employment and business opportunities, consistent with the commitment to the minority community.

Consistent with good business and corporate social responsibility principles, the City of Marietta stands ready to move towards advancement and achievement of each of the programs listed in this declaration. The City of Marietta and the NAACP will meet periodically to discuss the city's corporate social activity with regard to the minority community. An ongoing monitoring committee will be appointed with representation from the City of Marietta and the NAACP to monitor progress towards the attainment of this Fair Share Agreement.

This Agreement is effective the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ in the Year of our Lord, 1985, upon the signatures of the parties listed below.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Earl Shinhoster  
Region V - Director

\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert Flournoy  
Mayor - City of Marietta

\_\_\_\_\_  
Oscar R. Freeman, Jr.  
President - Cobb NAACP

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lillian Harris  
City Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Harris T. Travis - Coordinator (OFS)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness

\_\_\_\_\_  
Walter G. Robinson - Coordinator (OFS)



# Population Changes Bring Worries About Racism to Rural Georgia County

By WILLIAM E. SCHMIDT

Special to The New York Times

MARIETTA, Ga., Feb. 18 — For more than a year, civil rights activists pressed Cobb County officials to pay more attention to racial tensions in this fast-growing area northwest of Atlanta.

Pressure grew after a black family's newly bought house in a white neighborhood was firebombed Jan. 9. Last week the County Commission reluctantly agreed, on a vote of 3 to 2, to endorse a human rights panel of citizen volunteers.

But in a move that dismayed many blacks, who make up 5 percent of the county's population, the Commission refused to pay for the program with public money or to lend it office space or staff. "We have excellent race relations here," said Earl Smith, the newly elected chairman of the County Commission. "As far as the rights panel, I believe it will be more successful if it is handled by the private sector."

For the Rev. William Collins, who is

black, the county's action was only a half-step. "I can't say for sure that we got a great big racial problem in Cobb County," he said. "But I know one thing: we have a great big problem with insensitivity, pride, arrogance and ignorance."

The firebombing last month was the county's second instance of racially motivated violence in 16 months. In October 1983, a shotgun was fired at the home of a black couple who also had just moved into a white neighborhood. No one was injured in either incident, and no arrests have been made.

The Anti-Klan Network, an Atlanta group that monitors incidents of racial violence in the South, said it had reports of more than 20 incidents of racial harassment, threats and cross-burnings in the county in three years. Police here believe the number is exaggerated but acknowledge that some of the incidents may not have been reported to them.

Even now, much of Cobb County is a rural landscape of small towns and

country manners, where blacks have traditionally been a seldom-heard minority. Indeed, when efforts were made two decades ago to run bus lines from Atlanta, opposition was spurred in part by fears that the buses would only bring more blacks into the county.

## 15 Years of Population Growth

There is still no public transit link between here and Atlanta, less than a half hour away, but in recent years Cobb County has been undergoing great change. Though there are only 16,000 blacks here now, that is twice as many as in 1970. Meanwhile, in the same period, overall population in the county has increased 70 percent, to 320,000, as new subdivisions and glossy office complexes sprawl across the eastern and southern parts of the county.

That trend toward suburbanization last fall helped turn the county's historically Democratic politics Republican.

Democratic or otherwise, Cobb has a strong conservative bent. Until his death in 1983, aboard the ill-fated Korean airliner, the Congressman who represented Cobb County and north-west Georgia was Larry P. McDonald, a Democrat who was a member of the John Birch Society.

For some, the debate over race relations here only underscores, as it has in other communities elsewhere in the nation, the impact that rapid change has on old social and racial attitudes.

Ozell Sutton, regional director in Atlanta for the Justice Department's Community Relations Service, says the situation in Cobb County is "not so different than a lot of places where there has been an influx of people who don't share the same traditional values."

"There is ferment," he said, "and when you add race to the pot, too, it just boils all the faster."

## He Favored Creation of Panel

Mr. Sutton was among those who urged the county to organize a human rights panel as a way of relieving the tensions of social change.

But when the issue came to a vote before the council last week, some commissioners were angry. "This whole thing has been blown out of proportion," said Barbara Williams, a commissioner who voted against the proposal. She said she resented it that the commissioners were "being put in a position to look like racist fools if we don't adopt this resolution."

Mrs. Williams, in an interview later, said that the two violent incidents in the county spoke less about race and more about what she called the general tendency in society toward "undirected violence" against blacks, women, children and others.

But Lyn Wells, coordinator for the Anti-Klan Network, says the county is a center for activity by the Ku Klux Klan, estimating there are as many as 300 members in six local groups.

County residents say it is not uncommon to see robed Klansmen working street corners on weekends in warm weather, passing out literature or seeking donations.

For some critics, such activity recalls the darkest moments of Cobb's past. It was here, in one of the worst outbreaks of anti-Semitic violence in the nation's history, that an angry mob in 1915 lynched Leo Frank, a Jew who had been found guilty of murdering a 13-year-old girl.



The New York Times/Alan Weiner

Signs of population growth in Cobb County: The Hamilton Trace development, above, and an old shed surrounded by new homes. The Rev. William Collins says there is "a great big problem with insensitivity, pride, arrogance and ignorance."

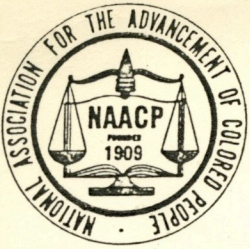


And J. B. Stoner, the white supremacist who is now serving a Federal prison term for conspiracy to bomb a black church in Alabama in 1958, lived and worked in Marietta, where he published his racist newspaper, The Thunderbolt.

Others say such comparisons are unfair, arguing the county is changing for the better. Last year, when 200 robed Klansmen marched in a rally on the courthouse square, 1,200 local people, black and white, gathered that same afternoon at a local church in prayer and protest to the Klan.

Oscar Freeman, head of the local chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, said Cobb County was probably no worse than a lot of other places. "The biggest problem is just getting people to admit we have some problems," he said.





NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE

SEVENTEEN NINETY BROADWAY

NEW YORK, N. Y. 10019 • 212-245-2100

*Please direct reply to:*

Earl T. Shinoster, Regional Director  
Southeast Regional Office NAACP  
970 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, Southwest  
Suite 203  
Atlanta, Georgia 30314  
688-8868

May 27, 1983

Mr. Lee E. Partain, Jr.  
President, Georgia State Bank  
100 Galleria Parkway, Northwest  
Smyrna, Georgia

Dear Mr. Partain:

Since our initial meeting and formal presentation of Operation Fair Share to your Board of Directors on February 15, the NAACP and the Georgia State Bank have made great strides towards the development of a "Model" Fair Share agreement with the banking industry.

During our meeting of May 3, we agreed to form three sub-committees or working groups in the areas of: (1). Personnel, (2). Purchasing and (3). Community Reinvestment and Finance. Assignments were made of personnel to represent the Bank on these committees and appointments were forthcoming from the NAACP. As you stated "The ball is in your court". This communication will outline the objectives, structure (assignments), and timetable for development. Moreover, a proposed pilot project outline is presented for consideration.

We realize that this is perhaps the most difficult aspect of our discussions, thus far. However, we feel confident that with your continued leadership we will be able to focus on our mutual objectives and successfully complete our mission.

#### Mission

Development of appropriate language and action plan for a model operation Fair Share agreement between the Georgia State Bank and the NAACP focusing on areas of personnel, purchasing and community reinvestment and finance.

#### Personnel

Objective - How to encourage and recruit more black applicants for possible employment opportunities.



Page Two

Mr. Lee E. Partain, Jr.  
Smyrna, Georgia  
May 27, 1983

NAACP Representatives

Mr. Walter Robinson  
Mrs. Mary Cater  
Mr. William Quincey  
Ms. Ira Deloach

Georgia State Bank

Ms. Barbara Gillham  
Ms. Jeanette H. Main

Purchasing

Objective - How To identify and make contact with black vendors and suppliers in order to enhance their opportunities to be considered for business opportunities.

NAACP Representatives

Mr. Hugh Grogan  
Ms. Marsha Gober  
Ms. Deanne Bonner  
Oscar Freeman

Georgia State Bank

Ms. Mariorie B. Couch  
Mr. Lee A. Scoggins  
Ms. Jeannette H. Main

Community Reinvestment/Finance

Objective - How to aid black economic growth and participation in Cobb County.

NAACP Representatives

Mr. Dover Ferrell  
Dr. Harris Travis  
Reverend William Collins  
Mr. Earl T. Shinoster

Georgia State Bank

Mr. Steve Thompson  
Mr. Lee A. Scroggins

We have developed these working groups so as to facilitate direct communication with persons knowledgeable in general and specific areas of concern. The chairpersons from our subcommittees will contact you to arrange an appropriate meeting date and time, beginning during the week of June 7. It is hoped that each working group will meet as many times as is necessary to arrive at appropriate language and action plans. Upon completion of these tasks each component will be integrated into a document that maybe signed off on by officials of the Georgia State Bank and NAACP.

Pilot Projects

- (1) NAACP OUTREACH HELP CENTER (Cobb County)  
We are enclosing for your review a copy of the NAACP OUTREACH, COMMUNITY HELP CENTER HANDBOOK.



Page Three

Mr. Lee E. Partain, Jr.

Smyrna, Georgia

May 27, 1983

This project represents a new initiative by the NAACP to provide direct services on a community wide basis. We are proposing that such a concept be fully developed in Cobb County as a part of this proposed agreement.

(2) Communications Project: "REGION WATCH"

1. Expansion of "REGION WATCH" newspaper to include specific focus on the Cobb area news and happenings, as well as, community trends in the Southeast Region.
2. Venture into Cable TV community programming focusing on consumerism, current events, and other issues and topics of interest.

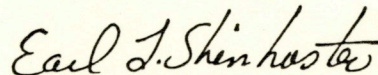
It is our hope to work cooperatively with Georgia State Bank in implementing these pilots as an integral part of Fair Share program thrust. A more fully developed proposal is being prepared and will be presented for consideration.

We are pleased to announce to you that Dr. Harris Travis, Vice President of Academic Affairs at Southern Vocational Technical School has agreed to be the Chairman of our sub-committee and will work closely with us in the further development and implementation of this project.

Again, thank you for your interest and concern. We hope that we can complete our discussions and be ready for a formal signing during the first week of July, 1983.

Please feel free to contact me with regard to this letter for any clarifications that maybe needed. Of course, Mrs. Mary Cater, will continue as our contact and representative.

Sincerely yours,



Earl T. Shinhoster  
Regional Director

ETS/mw

Enclosure

cc: Mr. Oscar Freeman

Dr. Harris Travis

OFS Committee Members



COMMITTEE MEMBERS  
& PATRONS

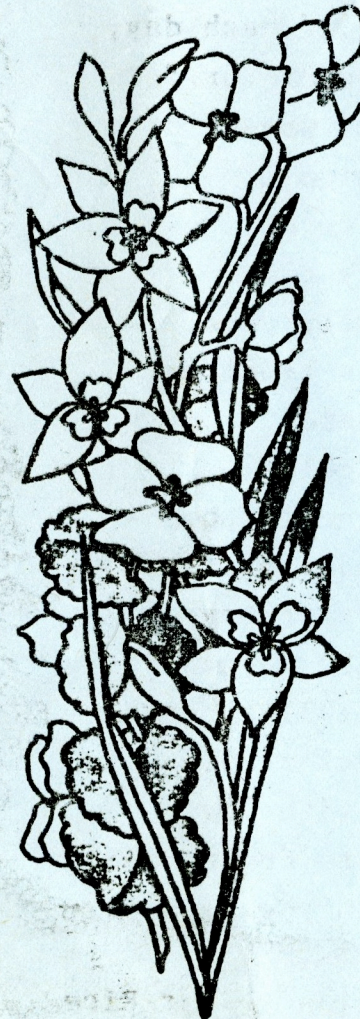


Ms. Marsha J. Beard  
Mr. & Mrs. James Brock  
Ms. Barbara Bruggar  
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Burroughs  
Rev. & Mrs. Hugh Byrd  
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Carter  
Mr. & Mrs. Allen Cater  
Hon. Vicki Chastain, Mayor, Marietta, GA  
Mr. & Mrs. Ernest Christian  
Mr. & Mrs. William Corrigan  
Mrs. Mary Dyer  
Mr. & Mrs. Mack Eppinger  
Atty. Robert Flournoy  
Councilman Phillip Goldstein  
Commissioner John Hammond  
Mr. & Mrs. John Hayes  
Mrs. Barbara Head  
Councilwoman Betty Hunter  
Bishop Husband & Members,  
Hinsley Chapel COGIC  
Mrs. Ernestine Jackson  
Mr. & Mrs. Lucius Johnson  
Rev. & Mrs. Robert Johnson  
Mr. Thomas Kilgore  
Mrs. Edna Lockhart  
Mr. & Mrs. George Miller  
Rev. & Mrs. Raymond Moss  
Mrs. Sarah Nichols  
Rev. & Mrs. Randolph Scott  
Mrs. Ernestine Slade  
\*Mr. & Mrs. Leroy Sterling & Family  
Mr. & Mrs. Winston Strickland  
Dr. & Mrs. Harris Travis  
Rev. & Mrs. David Wayland  
Mr. & Mrs. George Williams  
Ms. Yvonne Williams  
Mr. & Mrs. M. J. Woods  
Mrs. Evelyn Worthy

\*Special thanks for providing the meat--  
"Big Man's BBQ", 2520 E. Piedmont Rd.  
Marietta, GA

GOD BLESS YOU

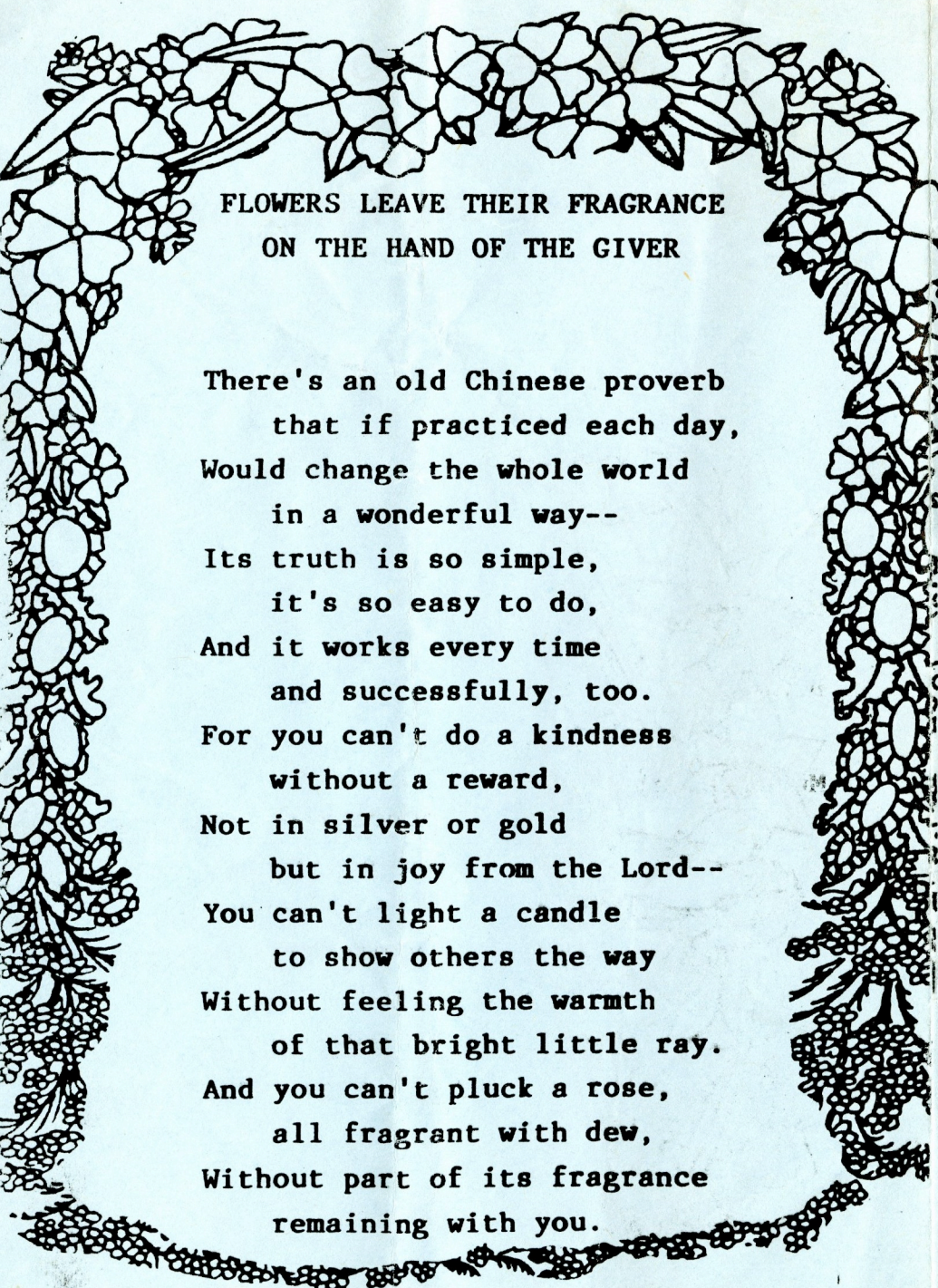
OSCAR & PEARL FREEMAN



RECEPTION & PROGRAM  
COBB COUNTY YWCA  
48 HENDERSON  
MARIETTA, GEORGIA

FRIDAY, MAY 29, 1987  
6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.





FLOWERS LEAVE THEIR FRAGRANCE  
ON THE HAND OF THE GIVER

There's an old Chinese proverb  
that if practiced each day,  
Would change the whole world  
in a wonderful way--  
Its truth is so simple,  
it's so easy to do,  
And it works every time  
and successfully, too.  
For you can't do a kindness  
without a reward,  
Not in silver or gold  
but in joy from the Lord--  
You can't light a candle  
to show others the way  
Without feeling the warmth  
of that bright little ray.  
And you can't pluck a rose,  
all fragrant with dew,  
Without part of its fragrance  
remaining with you.

Helen Steiner Rice

PROGRAM

Prayer . . . . . Elder Bohannon  
Hinsley Chapel COGIC

Welcome . . . . . Kathryn Woods

Musical Selection . . . . . Cheryl Ware

Remarks . . . . .

Presentations . . . . .

Muscial Selection . . . . . Cheryl Ware

Benediction . . . . .





**Pearl Freeman**, longtime manager of the City of Marietta's tax department, was honored as City of Marietta Employee of the Year at Wednesday night's council meeting. Presenting the award was **Joy Henson** of the Marietta Jaycees, which sponsors the award.

Mrs. Freeman, a 21-year employee, is popular with both the public and other employees. Not one to say, "That's not my job," said Ms. Henson, she is a leader, heading successful fund drives and chairing numerous city and community boards.



**Pearl Freeman**

**Compiled by Bill Kinney. Have an item? Call 428-9411 or FAX 422-9533.**