

# Congressional Black Caucus

306 House Annex

Washington, D.C. 20515

202-225-1691

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Louis Stokes, Ohio

November 2, 1977

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Congressional Black Caucus Members

FROM: Parren J. Mitchell, Chairman

RE: Follow-up of Interest Group Meeting,  
October 20, 1977

Attached are the notes from the meeting with Mr. Chester McGuire, Assistant Secretary of HUD for Fair Housing and Mr. Parker Jones and others with the Association of Black Shorthand Reporters.

Also enclosed are materials for your review left by the Shorthand Reporters group. This is a new organization and needs the full support of the Caucus in obtaining all possible assistance that the Caucus can offer in securing more job assignments for minority shorthand reporting with Congressional, Federal administrative and judicial agencies.



MEETING WITH CHESTER MCGUIRE, ASSISTANT SECRETARY  
EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AND FAIR HOUSING, HUD

Several areas of interest to CBC members were discussed with the Assistant Secretary of Equal Opportunity and Fair Housing, Chester McGuire:

- o Application of set aside principle in HUD contracts to avoid appearance of quota, language such as "no less than, X%" of "a goal of X%", will be used by HUD in designating targets for minority involvement in contracts and grants.

- o Homeownership

Efforts are underway at HUD to develop an ownership supplement program.

- o Homesteading

It was recommended that HUD make efforts to reduce the high cost of rehabilitation to low income persons through supplemental payment in order to insure that low income persons participate in the program.

- o Redlining

Secretary Harris will testify in early November in support of Edwards-Drinan bill HR. 3504 which has a provision prohibiting redlining.

Need to focus on sanctions against banks and insurance companies' use of redlining.

- o Fair Housing

CBC recommendations regarding housing must include strong fair housing (equal) opportunity language.

- o HUD Reorganization

Contact person - Al Miller, Deputy Assistant Secretary

- o Urban Policy

It was suggested that Congressman Dellum would be the contact person for CBC in follow-up on urban policy developments. Dellums co-chaired the October 12th CBC Urban Policy Round-table. McGuire will be in contact with Dellums regarding areas of mutual concern.



CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS

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Minutes from Black Shorthand Reporters Meeting

October 20, 1977 2:30 p.m. H-328 (Capitol)

Present: Chairman, Parren J. Mitchell  
Barbara J. Williams, Executive Director

Mr. Parker Jones, President, Association of Black Shorthand  
Reporters

Mr. Richard Burney, Jr. - Washington, D.C.

Mr. William S. Eaddy - Great Neck, New York

Mr. McKinley Wise - Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

The reporters informed the Caucus of their prior attempts with Congress Members to obtain the needed information to establish the organization with the House and Senate regarding possible assignments with Hill committees. Letters are enclosed from the House Administration and the Small Business Administration regarding procedures.

The Federal court system has no more than 10 Black reporters (recorders) in the U.S. There are currently 1000-1500 Black shorthand reporters in the country. There is one Black employed by the House and none by the the Senate. With the appointment of 104 new judges in the country, the group is hoping to be included in the onset of new reporter assignments.

There is a certification test given at 260 words per minute to qualify for the "Certificate of Merit" which is needed to acquire top jobs in the field. All members attending the meeting were certified.

Their exploration of policies of Federal agencies revealed a combination of practices from annual contracts through the purchasing offices at certain agencies almost exclusively with majority group shorthand reporters or firms too vague and unspecified policies with others.

Chairman Mitchell suggested several possible strategies to the group, such as contacting Secretary Griffin Bell to deal with the Federal judiciary agencies; contacting Mr. Vernon Weaver of the Small Business Administration to urge that Black shorthand reporters be given a fair chance at the jobs and certification procedures available to them; and contacting House leadership and chairpersons of committees to urge inclusion of Black shorthand reporters in committee hearing assignments.