

ALBINA COALITION

Vern Summers, Director (Coordinator) Metropolitan Human Relations Commission 1220 S. W. 5th Avenue Rm. 410 City Hall Portland, OR 97204	248-4187
Ellis H. Casson, President Portland Chapter NAACP 222 S. W. Morrison Street Rm. 412 Portland, OR 97204	221-2067
James O. Brooks, Executive Director Urban League of Portland 718 West Burnside Street Portland, OR 97209	224-0151
Rev. John H. Jackson, President Albina Ministerial Alliance 126 N. E. Alberta Mallory Avenue Christian Church Portland, OR 97211	284-1954
Baruti Lateif Artharee, Chairman Black Justice Committee P. O. Box 8562 Portland, OR 97208	(206)696-4633 (Vancouver)
Betty Thompson, President Oregon Association of Colored Women Clubs 2433 N. E. 8th Avenue Portland, OR 97212	282-9203
Mrs. Willie Mae Hart, President National Council of Negro Women (Portland - Section) 3817 N. E. Mallory Avenue Portland, OR 97212	284-4651
Ms. Bettie Lou Overton, President Albina Womens' League 3326 N. Missouri Avenue Portland, OR 97227	284-5689
Nathan J. Proby, President United Minority Workers 106 N. E. Morris Street Portland, OR 97212	288-0168

ALBINA COALITION

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James Loving, Coordinator 288-6391  
King Neighborhood Facilities  
4815 N. E. 7th Avenue  
Portland, OR 97211

Thomas Kennedy, Co-Chairman 224-4800  
Black Heritage Committee  
P. O. Box 1399  
Portland, OR 97207

Gracye Baldwin, Co-Chairman 288-8187  
Albina Art Center  
P. O. Box 11307  
Portland, OR 97211

Hazel G. Hays, Manager 280-6901  
Albina Human Resources Center  
5022 N. Vancouver Avenue  
Portland, OR 97217

Dr. William Harris, Coordinator 229-3472  
Black Studies Center 229-4003  
PSU - P. O. Box 751  
Portland, OR 97207

Charles Carter, Director 288-8345  
Albina Action Center  
707 N. E. Knott  
Portland, OR 97212

Henry Scott, President 288-0777  
Coast Janitorial  
704 N. E. Alberta  
Portland, OR 97211

Ronald Herdon, President 288-5813  
Black Education Center  
3703 N. Williams  
Portland, OR 97227

Robert Woodard, Chairman 229-4003  
B. S. U.  
P. O. Box 751  
Portland, OR 97207

Eugene Jackson, Director 281-0015  
Northwest Minority Contractors  
107 N. E. Graham  
Portland, OR 97212

(OVER ON BACK)-----

April 23, 1975

Coalition meeting, those present:

Tonda McFerrian  
Forest Jenkins  
Baruti Artharee  
Charlotte Williams  
Betty Barr  
Ellis Casson  
Michael Colbert  
Vern Summers  
Bill Talbert  
Earl Debnam  
James Loving  
Rosemary Allen  
Betty Thompson  
Andrew Houston  
George Allen  
Ron Herndon  
Bill Harris  
Rev. Johnson

REMARKS:

Mr. Oscar Johnson stated that the case for Rickie Johnson can wait while BJC directs its efforts toward getting private legal counsel for Homer Zachary instead of the court appointed lawyer he now has.

Homer Zachary requested the assistance of the BJC/Coalition in securing a private lawyer.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

Reports from the last meeting:

Letter to Mayor Goldschmidt and Chief Baker: Vern Summers suggested changes in the content of the letter. Instead of listing the specific concerns which are to be discussed, the letter was made a general invitation. This meeting has been scheduled for May 19, 1975 at Model Cities at 7:30 pm. It was suggested if the 5/19/75 meeting does not prove to be successful, we should issue demands for the removal of all officers involved in shootings. These officers should be removed from both North and East Precincts. The letter is to be sent out.

The letter to Attorney General Lezak was read and approved. George Allen, Vern Summers, Michael Colbert, Betty Barr and Bill Talbert are to meet at Lezak's office at 9 am to give him the letter on 4/24/75. Lezak has requested a copy of the questions the Johnson family lawyer submitted to Moore. The letter was endorsed by the AMA, NAACP, Model Cities Planning Board, BJC, Oregon Association of Colored Womens Club, United Minority Workers.

Rev. Johnson, representing the Albima Ministerial Alliance, read the position of the AMA taken in regards to supporting the actions of the BJC. The AMA is prepared to endorse the federal investigation, but does not support the Boycott of Radio Cab at this time. AMA has requested additional information concerning Radio Cab Co.

AMA is in favor of the suspension of the officers involved in the shootings, but not in favor of their dismissal.

The letter to Portland Public Schools was read and approved. It is supported by the BJC. The NAACP and NACWC will discuss the issue at their next meeting.

The Class Action Suit was provided. It is to be discussed in the next meeting. None of the officers involved in the 1969 suit have been involved in the recent killings.

The inquest transcript will cost \$108 or \$180. Neither the Justice Department or the Human Resource Bureau feels it will be able to provide the coalition with a copy.

The schedule of cab stands shows which cabs are assigned to which stands at which time.

The names of the officers who were involved in the shootings have not been ascertained yet. Hren and May were the officers involved in the shooting of Kenny Allen.

Knusen at N.W. School of Law is not authorized to practice before the Oregon Bar. He was asked to serve as research assistant to the Coalition.

Bob Hagan - lawyer who is to provide services.

Nathaniel Jones - No contact made.

Verna Cansen, West Coast Regional Director, NAACP: To review articles of shooting with lawyers of West Coast Region NAACP and to get back in touch with Casson later.

Judy Kobbervig suggested Charles Merton as lawyer for Homer Zachary.

Stevie Remington of ACLU suggested Howard Moore, Black attorney in San Francisco. Contact him in regards to the federal investigation. ACLU would approve his assistance.

Ramsey Clark indicated grounds for a federal investigation is valid. He suggested questioning strategy used by police in dealing with Blacks.

Bill Talbert reported that the Loren Miller Law Club would be available to us. They have assistance for us in the areas of employment, housing and education, not criminal cases.

The names of the attorneys who will take the Zachary case are to be given to Baruti who is to contact the family. Contact is to be made with the lawyers by 4/25/75. The Public Defender is to be requested a postponement of the trial date (5/6/75)/ The coalition should contact the public defender and request that postponement. Baruti is to contact Homer about this postponement and the other lawyers to be contacting the family. Michael volunteered to speak to the public defender in behalf of Homer.

#### BOYCOTT

There were no endorsements at this time, other than the Black Justice Committee.

#### FEDERAL INVESTIGATION:

The investigation is to begin by 4/28/75. It will be a preliminary investigation to review facts and information already available and to try to answer unanswered questions and if the answers are not satisfactory, lawyers will conduct a full scale investigation. It was not known if outside FBI agents will be used.

HOMER ZACHARY DEFENSE FUND:

The Portland State Black Student Union wants to participate in raising funds for the Homer Zachary Defense Fund.

COMPOSITION OF THE COALITION: Any group who is interested in working with the coalition is welcomed.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Charlotte Williams". The script is cursive and fluid.

Charlotte Williams, Secretary  
Black Justice Committee

April 24, 1975

The Honorable Edward H. Levi  
Attorney General of the United States  
Justice Department  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Levi:

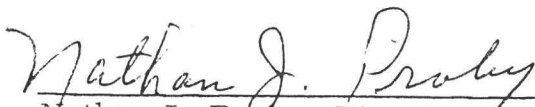
We request the Justice Department, through the United States Attorney for the District of Oregon, to conduct a full-scale investigation into the murders of Rickie Charles Johnson, Kenny Allen, Charles Menefee and Joe Hopkins. These four black men have been killed by the Portland Police Department within the last six months. There are many unusual circumstances surrounding the deaths of each of these men. Much concern has been raised in the community, and we must know if an identifiable pattern has been formed in the enforcement of the law when it relates to black people.

Title 18, United States Code, §241 and §242 provide ample legal authority for a federal investigation into whether the civil rights of these specific individuals were violated, and whether a conspiracy exists in the Portland Police Department to injure black citizens in the free exercise of federally guaranteed rights.

Sincerely,




Rev. Ellis H. Casson, President  
Portland Chapter NAACP



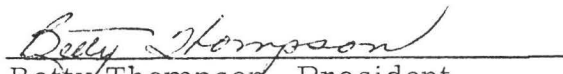
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Nathan J. Proby, Director  
United Minority Workers



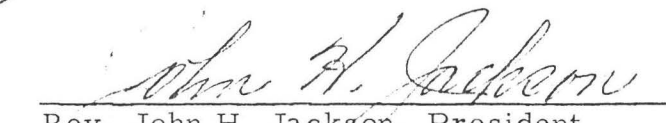
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James O. Brooks, Executive Director  
Urban League of Portland



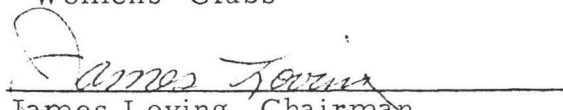
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Betty Thompson, President  
Oregon Association of Colored  
Womens' Clubs



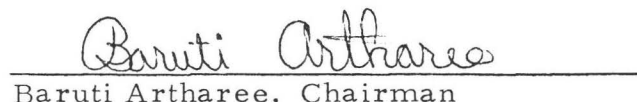
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Rev. John H. Jackson, President  
Albina Ministerial Alliance



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James Loving, Chairman  
Model Cities Citizens Planning  
Board



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Baruti Artharee, Chairman  
Black Justice Committee

## CHAPTER 13—CIVIL RIGHTS

- Sec.
241. Conspiracy against rights of citizens.
242. Deprivation of rights under color of law.
243. Exclusion of jurors on account of race or color.
244. Discrimination against person wearing uniform of armed forces.
245. Federally protected activities.

## Historical Note

1968 Amendment. Pub.L. 90-284, Title I, § 102, Apr. 11, 1968, 82 Stat. 75, 241-4  
245.

## § 241. Conspiracy against rights of citizens

If two or more persons conspire to injure, oppress, threaten, or intimidate any citizen in the free exercise or enjoyment of any right or privilege secured to him by the Constitution or laws of the United States, or because of his having so exercised the same; or

If two or more persons go in disguise on the highway, or on the premises of another, with intent to prevent or hinder his free exercise or enjoyment of any right or privilege so secured—

They shall be fined not more than \$10,000 or imprisoned not more than ten years, or both; and if death results, they shall be subject to imprisonment for any term of years or for life.

June 25, 1948, c. 645, 62 Stat. 696; Apr. 11, 1968, Pub.L. 90-284, Title I, § 103(a), 82 Stat. 75.

## Historical and Revision Notes

Reviser's Note. Based on Title 18, U.S.C., 1940 ed., § 51 (Mar. 4, 1909, c. 321, § 15 Stat. 1092 [Derived from R.S. § 51]).

Use making conspirator ineligible to office was omitted as incongruous since it attaches ineligibility to hold to a person who may be a private citizen and who was convicted of conspiracy to violate a specific statute. It seems to be no reason for imposing a penalty in the case of one in crime, in view of the fact that offenses do not carry such a severe penalty. The experience of the Department of Justice is that this unusual provision has been an obstacle to successful prosecutions for violations of the act.

Mandatory punishment provision was rephrased in the alternative.

Minor changes in phraseology were made. 50th Congress House Report No. 304.

1968 Amendment. Pub.L. 90-284 increased limitation on fines from \$5,000 to \$10,000 and provided for imprisonment for any term of years or for life when death results.

Legislative History. For legislative history and purpose of Pub.L. 90-284, see 1968 U.S.Code Cong. and Adm.News, p. 1837.

sections. *Watson v. Devlin*, D.C. 1958, 167 F.Supp. 628.

is section and section 242 of this providing punishment by fine or imprisonment for persons conspiring to re, oppress, threaten or intimidate citizen in the free exercise and enment of any right or privilege sed by the Constitution or federal s, and like punishment of person who er color of law willfully subjects r citizen to the deprivation of such ghts, privileges or immunities, or to ferent punishments on account of be g an alien or by reason of color or ce, have no application to the plain- ff's proposed civil action for damages. *Mattheis v. Hoyt*, D.C.Mich.1955, 136 F. app. 119.

This section has no application to a civil action for money damages for alleged violation of those rights. *Copley*

*v. Sweet*, D.C.Mich.1955, 133 F.Supp. 502, affirmed 234 F.2d 660, certiorari denied 77 S.Ct. 138, 352 U.S. 887, 1 L.Ed.2d 91.

Plaintiff in a civil conspiracy case has the burden of proving the existence of a conspiracy which it alleges exists. *United Elec. Radio & Mach. Workers of America v. General Elec. Co.*, D.C.D.C.1954, 127 F.Supp. 934, affirmed in part, vacated in part on other grounds 231 F.2d 257, 97 U.S.App.D.C. 306, certiorari denied 77 S. Ct. 95, 352 U.S. 572, 1 L.Ed.2d 76.

Civil actions against superintendent and physician of State Farm for injuries sustained by inmate could not be based on former sections 51, 52 of this title [now this section and section 242 of this title] making it a crime for one person to deprive another of civil rights. *Gordon v. Garrison*, D.C.Hl.1948, 77 F.Supp. 477.

## § 242. Deprivation of rights under color of law

Whoever, under color of any law, statute, ordinance, regulation, or custom, willfully subjects any inhabitant of any State, Territory, or District to the deprivation of any rights, privileges, or immunities secured or protected by the Constitution or laws of the United States, or to different punishments, pains, or penalties, on account of such inhabitant being an alien, or by reason of his color, or race, than are prescribed for the punishment of citizens, shall be fined not more than \$1,000 or imprisoned not more than one year, or both; and if death results shall be subject to imprisonment for any term of years or for life.

June 25, 1948, c. 645, 62 Stat. 696; Apr. 11, 1968, Pub.L. 90-284, Title I, § 103(b), 82 Stat. 75.

### Historical and Revision Notes

**Reviser's Note.** Based on Title 18, U. S.C., 1940 ed., § 52 (Mar. 4, 1909, c. 321, § 20, 35 Stat. 1092 [Derived from R.S. § 5510]).

**1968 Amendment.** Pub.L. 90-284 provided for imprisonment for any term of years or for life when death results.

Reference to persons causing or procuring was omitted as unnecessary in view of definition of "principal" in section 2 of this title.

**Legislative History.** For legislative history and purpose of Pub.L. 90-284, see 1968 U.S.Code Cong. and Adm.News, p. 1837.

A minor change was made in phraseology. 80th Congress House Report No. 901.



April 24, 1975

The Honorable Neil Goldschmidt  
Mayor of Portland  
303 City Hall  
1200 S. W. Fifth Avenue  
Portland, Oregon 97204

Dear Mayor Goldschmidt:

A coalition of organizations has been meeting in the Model Neighborhood on problems concerning the Portland Police Bureau. As leaders of these organizations, we would like to invite you and Chief Baker to a meeting which is to be held at Model Cities, Conference Room, on May 19, 1975, 7:30 p.m., to discuss some of the problems facing the community.

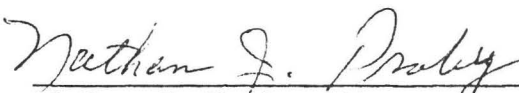
These organizations have been meeting two or three times a week since the shooting of Rickie Johnson in an attempt to work together constructively to try to bring about changes for the betterment of the Black community and the City of Portland.

We know that as Mayor, you are concerned with any problem in which the community feels it is being treated unfairly. If the aforementioned date is not convenient, please let us know when you can meet with us.

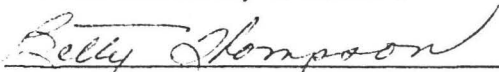
Sincerely,



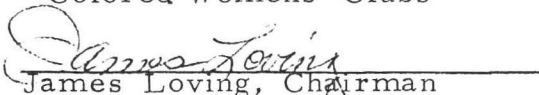
Ellis H. Casson, President  
Portland Chapter NAACP



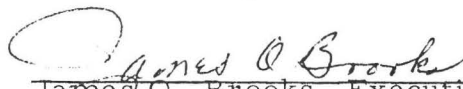
Nathan J. Proby, Director  
United Minority Workers



Betty Thompson, President  
Oregon Association of  
Colored Womens' Clubs



James Loving, Chairman  
Model Cities Citizens' Planning  
Board



James O. Brooks, Executive Director  
Urban League of Portland



Rev. John H. Jackson, President  
Albina Ministerial Alliance



Baruti Artharee, Chairman  
Black Justice Committee

This meeting is for the purpose of trying to established a Black Coalition. It was agreed upon by the majority of these group that the MHRC would be the coordinating body to coordinate meetings in this Community.

#### REACTIONS FROM GROUPS

1. Meetings are being held by organizations without proper notification to all Organizations.
2. Issues that effect the Community are being act upon by organizations, without coordinating with the Coordinating Body (MHRC) so that the rest of the Organizations can have a change to respone.
3. Publications on issues goes out publicly without any coordination with the groups.
4. Some Organizations want to form a Coalition and some do not, and want to do their own thing.

XXXXXX  
XXXXX

June 2, 1975

XXXXXXXXXX  
XXXXXXXXXX

Rev. A. L. Henderson  
The Portland Observer  
P. O. Box 3731  
Portland, Oregon 97211

Dear Rev. Henderson:

In reading your article in the May 22, 1975 PORTLAND OBSERVER, your headline "City Organizes Blacks" is misleading and caused a great deal of confusion among organizations which are part of the Albina Coalition.

Since I work for the Metropolitan Human Relations Commission, it would have been more appropriate to specify the Commission in your headline. The article also stated that Thomas Kennedy represented the Portland Development Commission. Mr. Kennedy is Co-Chairman of the Black Heritage Committee, which he represents on the Coalition -- not the Portland Development Commission.

I would suggest that any publicity dealing with the Albina Coalition be verified by the Chairman, George Allen. He can be reached at 228-9131, Ext. 20 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Sincerely,

Vernon Summers  
Director

VS:gp  
cc: Thomas Kennedy

THE CITY OF  
**PORTLAND**



**OREGON**

3 June 1975

RECEIVED  
JUN 6 1975  
HUMAN RELATIONS COMMS.

BUREAU OF  
POLICE

NEIL GOLDSCHMIDT  
MAYOR

B. R. BAKER  
CHIEF OF POLICE

222 S.W. PINE  
PORTLAND, OR. 97204

The Albina Coalition  
c/o Mr. Vern Summers, Director  
Metropolitan Human Relations Commission  
City Hall  
Portland, Oregon

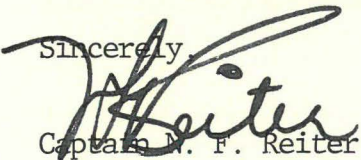
Dear Coalition Members,

Captain Taylor and Mr. Monroe inform me that you are a broad based organization representing a confederation of long established Albina area organizations. Apparently, governmental service to the Albina community will be of concern to you.

North Precinct is charged with the responsibility for police service in the area. The Precinct is currently involved in a program to broaden inputs into the planning phase of the Precinct decision making process. Currently we are studying the desirability and possibility of a mini-precinct in the Albina area as well as a change of area boundaries designed to standardize police practices in the Albina districts.

If you are interested in participation, a meeting between members of your coalition and area police officials would provide the opportunity to work out details. In the event that individual organizations are interested, a meeting between representatives of those organizations and the police would be of value. Accordingly, if you decide on this course of action, Precinct officials will be made available to the meeting at your convenience.

Sincerely,

  
Captain W. F. Reiter  
Commanding, North Precinct

NFR/cam

# City organizes Blacks

The Albina Coalition has been organized by the Metropolitan Human Relations Commission. Those groups asked to join and be represented by their presidents are: The NAACP, the Urban League of Portland, Albina Ministerial Alliance, Black Justice Committee, United Minority Workers, Black Heritage Committee (of the Oregon Bicentennial Commission), PSU Black Student Union, Albina Art Center, Albina Women's League, the Oregon Conference of

Colored Women's Clubs, and the Oregon Conference of Negro Women's Clubs.

Vernon Summers, Executive Director of the MHRC, organizer of the coalition said this was an official function of MHRC, one of whom responsibilities is to assist the organizations of communities that are having conflicts or problems.

The purpose of the coalition is to coordinate, pool resources, and provide constructive suggestions. Sum-

mers said that following the shooting of Rickie Johnson by a police officer, there was random activity by a number of organizations but no coordinated effort. The Albina Coalition would provide the necessary coordination.

Officers elected are: George Allen, PSU Black Student Union, president; Betty Overton Albina Women's League, vice president; Vern Summers, MHRC, secretary; and Tom Kennedy, Portland Development Commission, treasurer.

ALBINA COALITION

June 17, 1975

Dear Coalition Member:

On May 15, 1975, we met to establish a coalition of concerned groups of citizens in the community. The purpose of this coalition is to assess the needs of the people in the Albina area. You, as a member, expressed interest in being part of an organization to attack the problems that seem to be detrimental to the community.

Since the formation of this coalition, participation seems to be declining. It seems as though organizations participate more strongly on special issues and problems that might occur, but we must realize that a certain amount of planning has to be done to treat the symptoms so that the problems will decline.

I feel that this Coalition is very favorable and has much influence in making changes for the betterment of the community.

Sincerely,

George Allen  
Chairman

## ALBINA COALITION MEETING

The Albina Coalition met at 7:30 p. m. , October 28, 1975, in the Albina Action Center, 707 N. E. Knott Street. Present were: Ellis Casson, NAACP; Hazel Hays, Albina Multi-Service Center; Betty L. Overton, Vice Chairperson; Baruti L. Artharee, Black Justice Committee; Betty Barr, Black Justice Committee; Rev. John H. Jackson, Albina Ministerial Alliance; Tom Kennedy, Black Heritage Committee; and Vern Summers, Metropolitan Human Relations Commission.

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairperson Betty L. Overton.

Ms. Hays stated that the MHRC hearing will be on the afternoon of November 12, and she wanted to know whether this group would be interested in discussing this issue. (Since that time, the hearing has been changed to 2:00 p. m. , November 19.) There was a lengthy discussion on whether the City Council would approve the balance of MHRC's 1975-76 funding.

It was announced that the NAACP holds a candidate fair each year. Candidates running for public office speak to citizens and groups in the Albina Community. It was decided that the Coalition would give support to the NAACP.

It was requested that the Black Justice Committee work on voters registration for the Albina Community. Baruti Artharee, Chairman of the Black Justice Committee, said he would have to discuss this with his group. Rev. Jackson commented that one thing this community needs is someone working on voters registration, so the community can have a slate of candidates supported by the community. Baruti said he would let the Coalition know by the next meeting if the Black Justice Committee would be willing to take on that responsibility.

Baruti also gave a brief report on some of the Black Justice Committee's functions. He said the Roosevelt High School demonstration was a peaceful one. He felt the BJC did a good job in demonstrating for equal rights for Black students in that school. Mr. Artharee stated that his organization sometimes cannot wait until a Coalition meeting is called to give the rest of the organizations information, so they have to take action when they think it is necessary -- and then report to the entire group.

It was decided that the next meeting would be on November 13, 7:30 p. m. , at the Portland Metropolitan Steering Committee, 220 N. E. Russell Street. The Vice Chairperson is encouraging everyone to be in attendance at this important meeting to bring about better coordination for a strong Coalition in the Albina Community. The agenda will include voters registration and the candidate fair.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p. m.