

Jordan, Dawley & Holt
721 E. Brambleton Ave.
Norfolk, Virginia

April 2, 1962

Chuck McDew, Chrm.
James Foreman, Exec. Secretary
The Student Non-Violent Coordinating Comm.
197½ Auburn Ave., N.E.
Atlanta 3, Georgia

Re: Freeing Miss Brenda Travis

Dear Sirs:

Your sense of urgency regarding getting Miss Brenda Travis out of that Mississippi hell-hole(The Oakley Training School of Raymont, Miss.) has permeated this office. Good!

In order to proceed we need the following at once:

1. Full name and address of Miss Travis' parents.
2. A letter from the parents asking Len Holt to assist them in extricating Miss Travis from Oakley Training School (Preferably written in their own handwriting. It's a ten year felony to solicit business in Miss.)
3. Date of Brenda's conviction. . . and in what court.
4. Offense officially charged against her (a copy of the warrant or information is preferred; if none obtainable your description will suffice.
5. Actual acts committed by Brenda, "sit-in!" "protest March", etc. Give details regarding time, place, persons, city, county, etc.

The trial(or sham trial)

6. Date of trial, what court, what judge, what sentence.
7. Presence or absence of attorney?
8. What if any requests were made for counsel.
9. Name of prosecutor and his address.
10. Evidence offered in the trial against her--both good and bad, believable or unbelievable.

The Confinement

11. Name of person in charge of the Oakley Training School.
12. Address of, city in which located, or county in which located.
13. Proximity of the Oakley school to the city of Jackson, Miss. . . or the closest facsimile of civilization.
14. Date of confinement.

Miscellaneous

15. Give in addition to the recital of facts occuring at Brenda's trial

any opinion you may have regarding why her trial was unfair.

16. Existence of courtroom segregation?
17. Send pertinent newspaper clippings.
18. Age of Brenda Travis.
19. Prior convictions--if any.
20. Occupation of parents.
21. Anything else that you can think of.

To Be Done on This End

22. Secure suggestions from Ben Smith of New Orleans.
23. Secure . . . Rush memorandum . . . on procedures for a Mississippi State Court habeas corpus on the trial and appellate level from G.A.A.S.
24. Secure sample federal court petitions for a writ of Habeas Corpus for the District, Circuit and Supreme Court. . . along with suggestions for this particular matter.
25. Secure a lawyer with contact in New Orleans, Jacksonville (Fla.), or Atlanta (Depending on where the Fifth Circuit is sitting at the time) and one in Washington for a fast relay of petitions through the federal courts with the hope of getting through the entire federal appellate system in the shortest possible time. G.A.A.S. can do this, I think.
26. Find expense money for out of pocket expenditures. There may be some questions as to who is able and where it should come from among the able.

Sincerely:

Len
Len

cc:

Jim Dombrowski	Sam Newburger
Ben Smith	Ann Fagan Wood
Vic Rabinowitz	Ernie Goodman
Aryay Lenske	Anne Braden
Ben Dreyfus	Estelle Wyckoff
Ella Baker	