

To: COFO Staff
Re: Statewide Political Program

The COFO organization in the state of Mississippi is now committed to a wide-ranging political program. The enclosed packet provides two types of information for the staff:

- 1) Political background and educational material;
- 2) Specific steps to be completed in making the political program work.

The political background and educational material consists of:

- a) A leaflet entitled "Freedom Candidates--Mississippi." This leaflet explains the entire political program: the Freedom Candidates, the Freedom Registration, and the Challenge to the National Democratic Convention. The close interaction of these three programs is explained.
- b) A leaflet entitled "The Democratic Party in Mississippi." This describes the political structure and the workings of the Democratic party in the state. Included is a structural skeleton of the precinct, county, district and state elections plus an explanation of what happens at the elections.

There are three different memos about steps to be completed:

- a) Freedom Candidates
- b) Freedom Registration
- c) Convention Challenge

The Jackson office has a group of people working on the political program and is prepared to assist in many ways--holding workshops, giving speeches, sending out literature, etc. The people to contact are as follows:

Freedom Candidates: Jesse Morris
Freedom Registration: Dona Moses
Convention Challenge: Dave Dennis.

On Sunday, April 26, 1964, there will be a state-wide COFO convention in Jackson at the Masonic Temple, 1072 Lynch Street at 11 a.m. This meeting will be a workshop in political structure and political meetings, complete with mock conventions on various levels. Encourage as many people as possible to attend this meeting. The beginnings of political education should be made as quickly as possible. Staff should be present to help lead the workshops.