MISSISSIPPI FREEDOM REGISTRATION TO VOTE

I. Why have a Freedom Registration?

We are having a Freedom Registration in Mississippi because:
We do not believe that apathy is the reason Negroes in Mississippi
do not vote.
We believe that fear keeps them from trying to register to vote.
They are afraid of losing their jobs, having their property
destroyed, being harassed by the police.
Those who are brave enough to try are kept from registering by uncon­stitutional voting requirements and discriminatory practices.
We want to show Mississippi and the country by means of the
"Freedom Registration to Vote" that Negroes would register to
to vote if they could.

There are some 425,000 Negroes who are eligible to vote in Mississippi.
Less than 20,000 of them are registered. The Freedom Registration
is a plan to show how most of these 425,000 Negroes can be
registered.

II. How will the Freedom Registration be run?

Each county will have a registration board. The board will keep
official books for its county and appoint registrars who will have
the authority to register people in the precincts of that county.
Registration will be conducted every day, including Sunday. Regis­
trars will be permitted to travel in "mobile units" to register
people in their meetings, at their churches and in their homes.
Every effort will be made to make the registration easy for the
applicant. Registrars will be asked to assist the applicants,
including reading and filling in forms for illiterate people who
want to register.

III. Who can register?

In order to register in the Freedom Registration to Vote, a person
must:

1. Be a citizen of the United States.
2. Have lived in Mississippi for two years.
3. Have lived in the county where you are trying to register for
   one year. (If you are a minister or a minister's wife, you
   only have to have lived there for six months.)
4. Be 21 years old or older. (You can register at 20 if you will
   be 21 before the next election.)
5. Never have been convicted of: bribery, burglary, stealing,
   setting fires, telling a lie under oath, forgery, having
   more than one wife, obtaining money or goods under false
   pretenses, or taking money trusted to your care.

These are the only requirements to register in the Freedom Registrat­

IV. What can C.O.F.O. delegates do?

1. Help establish a board of registrars in your county.
2. Recruit people to serve as volunteer registrars.
3. Find churches, stores, and meeting places where registration may
   be held.

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