

Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee

6 RAYMOND STREET, N.W., ATLANTA 14, GEORGIA • 680-0331

702 Wall Street
McComb, Mississippi
39648

(601) 684-9414

COPY OF AFFIDAVIT

{ STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
{ COUNTY OF PIKE
{ CITY OF McCOMB

Willie B. Haynes
716 Summit Street

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On the 8th of May, Friday, two colored men came into my place of business, 716 Summit Street, McComb, and asked for some whiskey. I sold them a half pint of whiskey and they drank it on the premises. On the 24th of June, the same two men came back; this time with the police. The colored men had blackjacks and walked in. The tall colored man said, "All right you mother fucker," to me. And Herbert Beardon, a county law enforcement officer said that I was under arrest. I asked him why. He asked me if I knew the two colored men. I said that I had seen them; that I didn't know them. He said that the two Negroes were federal government men. I asked him if they were federal government men when he had to come along with them. I asked for proof that the two men were federal authorities, and he answered that everyone else who had been arrested hadn't talked back to him. He, one of the colored men, said that he was going to take me to Magnolia and charge me \$500.00 or put me in the federal pen. I told him to go ahead and put me in the federal pen. I then asked him what he was going to do with my husband, Bernard, and he said that he was going to arrest my husband too. I pointed out that the license was in my name and that in all other arrests they generally just arrested the one whose name was on the license. The tall colored man answered that because I had been talking back, they were going to arrest and fine us both. They took me and my husband both to Magnolia and put us in the county jail there.

I asked if I could call home and I did call. Sheriff Warren talked to my husband and told him that if my daughter brought \$500 to the jail, then he would let both of us out. My daughter brought \$430.00 down to the jail, then he would let both of us out. My daughter brought \$500.00 to the jail and was accompanied by R B . The sheriff told them that it would take \$515.00 dollars to bail one of us out. We bailed my husband out by borrowing fifteen dollars from the man who accompanied my daughter.

The next morning, on the twenty fifth, I got in touch with Lawyer Williams from McComb, and asked him to fix up some bond

"One Man, One Vote"



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papers for me. He did fix them up, but at the jail, Sheriff Warren wouldn't accept them. Warren told my husband to bring him \$300.00 and he would let me out until the first of July, at which time I was to pay him the other \$25.00. My husband borrowed the \$300.00 and bailed me out with that money.

That evening I went to see Lawyer Williams and he told me not to pay the \$215.00 on the first of July, to wait and see what Warren would do.

On the first or second of July, Sheriff Warren and his deputies came around picking up everyone who hadn't paid their fines. When I heard that they were picking people up, I got in touch with Lawyer Williams and told him that I could offer \$100.00 of what I owed; he told me to see Judge Harrington. I did, and Harrington refused the money. I got in touch with Williams again, and he told me to beat the others to Magnolia. I tried to do this, and they chased me. When I got there, Sheriff Warren was going to accept the money but Beardson said not to accept it. I got in touch with Williams again. He told me to stay out of touch until he, Williams, could contact Warren. Williams got in touch with Warren then, at about 5:00 p.m., he contacted me and told me that Warren had given me two more weeks.

The following Monday I went and paid the \$215.00 to Sheriff Warren.

About a week later, I went to seek the counsel of Lawyer Patterson in Brookhaven, and Lawyer Patterson told me that the two colored men who had figured in my arrest weren't F.B.I. men and weren't federal men, but that Sheriff Warren had hired them at \$35.00 a piece to work with him. He said that the two men weren't deputies either. Lawyer Patterson told us that he would take the cases of the 18 and 19 of us who had been arrested in this series, and would charge us \$150.00 apiece to take the cases. Not enough of those arrested wanted to go through with this, so I called Lawyer Patterson and told him to drop the whole thing.

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