

TO: COFO STAFF

CONCERNING: TOPICS FOR STAFF CONFERENCE DECEMBER 4-6

FROM: DAVID OWEN

During this past summer, VR work was organized by precincts, a couple of volunteers being assigned to each precinct. This system worked quite well; volunteers got to know the local people, earn their trust, contact people who are rarely at home. Now (at our last staff meeting) we are told that such organization is against COFO policy, that each volunteer must work randomly over the whole city. Under such a system, a volunteer would never see the same "local" twice to earn his trust, would not be able to return to houses where nobody was at home.

I would like to be told whether what is said to be COFO policy is indeed that; if it is, I would like discussion of it. Should not local projects be able to decide such debatable organizational policies for themselves? If so, is the decision up to the project director or to the VR staff? If to staff, who should vote?

The freedom registration was a good starting point for getting people into the movement. The courthouse is still too big a step for most of these people. (They've been talked to several times about requesting to vote and have refused.) What intermediate steps could be found? Especially, what programs can be used for the elderly who will probably fail the test anyway?

Is expanding into new areas possible at this time of year?