

Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party  
107 North Farish Street  
Jackson, Mississippi

October 3, 1965

Rev. C. Whitley  
East College  
Holly Springs,

Dear Rev. Whitley,

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you for offering your services to run in the 1966 Senatorial election. Indeed it is a contribution to the Negroes of the State and the Country.

I need not tell you that you are challenging one of the most powerful legislative officers and one of the most dangerous racists this country has ever known. There are of course more reasons which make your challenge so important.

At the present time no other candidate has made himself or herself known - whether from the regular Democrat party, the Mississippi Democratic Conference, the NAACP, the K.K.K. ecetera. There have been rumors that Governor Paul Johnson will resign and run in the 1966 election but that is all.

Should any other member of the F.D.P. offer their services for the same election post the matter would then be decided at a future State Convention of the Party. One should be held in about a month's time. I will be working toward spreading information across the state about your candidature and advise that you do likewise.

The Executive Committee of the M.F.D.P. feels that you are a true believer in the Party's platform and principles because of your help to formulate them; as one of the delegates to the National Democratic Convention in Atlantic City last year; and because your long fight for civil liberties and concern for free human development.

I need not tell you about some of the opposition the Party has had from groups and organizations, some of whom were once with us. Since Atlantic City some support has been lost. I would hope as a member of the Party and candidate for U.S. Senator, we could reactivate much of that support both actively and financially.

We should get as many people working in this campaign as possible. I thought of the possibility of involving the East and N.Y. students in writing letters to their parents urging them to register to vote before January and the possibility of involving the Methodist Church both State and Nationally in term of volunteers to do work in each county , press releases for public support and last but not least raising money for campaign material.

I deeply feel that if we do our homework like massive voter registration drives in each county political workshop and with more federal registrars in the state the possibility of winning is great in both Senatorial and Congressional districts like the second. Right now we have started a war for voters using every resource under the sun with the determination that nothing is impossible.

Information of every kind will be put at your disposal. On the other hand we would value any information you can give us and help by way of evaluation, mailing lists, etc.

The following addresses you may already have but they are worth repeating:

State Office - Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party  
c/o Lawrence Guyot or Lea Dilworth  
507 $\frac{1}{2}$  North Farish Street  
Jackson, Mississippi  
948-4038

Washington Office: FDP - c/o Mrs. Victoria Gray  
926 Pennsylvania Avenue S.E.  
Washington, D.C.  
546-4410

Good Luck! Keep in touch

Lea Dilworth  
(Executive Committee)

cc. To all members of the  
Executive Committee.