

To The Editor:

On May 3, 1966 thousands of Alabama Negroes will take an important step for and by themselves. In many towns famous today because a civil rights worker was murdered in them, Negroes will cast their votes in the Democratic primary and, in convention, nominate independent Negro candidates for office.

Alabama is notorious for its terror and oppression aimed at keeping Negroes in their place.

We hope that May 3 will not bring a repetition of Birmingham's fire hoses, Selma's tear gas and mounted club-swinging policemen, or Camden's electric cattle prods, or Hayneville's shotgun blasts in the night.

As a responsible member of the news media, you can assure it will not. By giving on-the-spot coverage to democracy in action, or by requesting it of your wire service or stringer, you will add the glare of national concern to the events of that day.

Enclosed you will find information of the candidates, a history of the development of the movement in Alabama, and other data.

For further information, you may call:

SNCC ---Atlanta  
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Bill Mahoney  
Alton Pertilla  
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Tina Harris  
Courtland Cox  
Stokely Carmichael

Thank you.  
Sincerely,

*Julian Bond*

Sncc Communications

ALABAMA FREEDOM CANDIDATES  
MAY 3, 1966

DALLAS COUNTY

Freedom Organization Officers:

|                    |                          |
|--------------------|--------------------------|
| chairman           | Clarence Williams, Selma |
| assistant chairman | A. D. Bush, Everdale     |
| secretary          | Mary Jane Sims, Summerg  |
| treasurer          | Nathan Payne, Five Point |

The Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee Freedom rally-dance which was held on April 11, at the national guard armory in Selma was instrumental in bringing together a large number of Dallas County citizens. The freedom organization has grown in the last three weeks and the staff has been working in the northern and southern parts of the county that have not been worked before. A political workshop was held in Selma Saturday, April 16th, in the SNCC office with representatives from seven different communities: Sardis, Selmont, Potters Station, Brantley, Tyler, Everdale, and Selma. They discussed the legal basis for the freedom organization and organizational strategy. Weekly meetings are being held all over the county in these different communities. Gloria Larry of SNCC has repeatedly attempted to see the probate judge to inform him of the freedom organization's intention of meeting at the Dallas County Courthouse, on May 3rd, to announce a slate of candidates. So far, a Mr. Samson Crum plans to run for sheriff, a Mr. A. D. Bush plans to run for either tax assessor or the board of revenue. They plan to run a slate of candidates. Gloria Larry, SNCC worker, has found the Probate Judge has either not been in, or out of town when she has tried to see him.

## LOWNDES COUNTY

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| tax assessor       | Mrs. Crawford, Mrs. Alice Moore, Mrs. Nellie Smith   |
| tax collector      | Mr. Frank Miles, Jr., Mr. Nellie Smith, Mrs. Joseph Wagner   |
| coroner            | Mr. Emory Ross   |
| sheriff            | Mr. Jesse Favors, Mr. Sy Logan, Jr.  |
| board of education | Mr. Hinson, Mr. Robert Logan, Mr. R. L. Strickla Mrs. Annabell Scott, Mrs. Bernice Kelly (Mrs. Scott lives in Tent City) |

May 2nd there will be a meeting at Mount Moriah #1, 5:30 in Beachwood, Ala. Beachwood is 30 miles west of Montgomery on 17. It's 14 miles North of Rt. 80 on 17. The press is invited to this important meeting, the day before the May 3rd elections.

## GREENE COUNTY

Rev. Thomas Gillmaore is running for Sheriff as a member of the democratic party. Martin Hoodson is running for school superintendent. Rev. Kirskey is running for school superintendent. Mrs. Branch is running for tax assessor. A Mrs. Goodson is thinking of running for tax assessor in the Northern part of the county on freedom organization ticket. There is a fairly good possibility that other candidates will run for offices other than the ones that are being sought after now by the above.

## WILCOX COUNTY

There is now a Wilcox county freedom organization with a "Black Bulldog" as its symbol.

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Home candidates declared in Alabama:

|                                |    |            |    |
|--------------------------------|----|------------|----|
| State Senate                   | 1  | AUTAUGA    | 1  |
| State Representative           | 15 | BARBOUR    | 14 |
| Democratic Executive Committee | 21 | BULLOCK    | 3  |
| County Commission              | 4  | CHOCTAW    | 7  |
| Board of Revenue               | 5  | DALLAS     | 4  |
| Board of Education             | 13 | GREENE     | 6  |
| Sheriff                        | 7  | HALE       | 2  |
| Tax assessors                  | 6  | JEFFERSON  | 8  |
| Tax collectors                 | 5  | MAGON      | 9  |
| Coroner                        | 2  | MARENGO    | 1  |
| Beat Captain                   | 4  | MONTGOMERY | 4  |
| Unknown                        | 5  | MOBILE     | 6  |
|                                |    | PERRY      | 9  |
|                                |    | SUMPTER    | 4  |
|                                |    | WILCOX     | 7  |

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The officers are:

|                         |                         |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| president               | Mr. Bernrd Bethea       |
| secretary               | Mrs. Ross Pledger       |
| treasurer               | Mr. Lewis               |
| chaplin                 | Mr. Willie Frank Powell |
| candidates:             |                         |
| Mr. Willie Frank Powell | Sheriff                 |
| Miss Mary Lee Allen     | tax collector           |
| Miss Connie Mack        | tax assessor            |

#### SUMTER COUNTY

Reverend Dixon, the local NAACP president is running for a House seat on the Democratic party ticket. Stu House has already seen the probate judge and informed him of their intentions to have a meeting on May 3rd to announce freedom party candidates. There will most likely be a Negro running for road commissioner on the freedom organization ticket.

Other people are going to declare themselves for office.