

NEWS RELEASE
STUDENT NONVIOLENT COORDINATING COMMITTEE
6 RAYMOND STREET, NW
ATLANTA, GEORGIA

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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RIGHTS CASES RETURNED TO STATE

GREENVILLE, MISS. - United States District Judge Claude Clayton returned to state courts more than 100 cases involving civil rights workers arrested in Mississippi this past summer.

The cases - from Greenwood and Drew, Mississippi - stemmed from arrests of civil rights workers and local Negroes during concentrated voter registration drives in the two towns.

They were removed to federal court after going before municipal judges in Drew and Greenwood. Those arrested had charged the laws they were accused of violating were discriminatory and designed to deprive them of their civil rights. The charged ranged from reckless driving to distributing literature without a permit.

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FDP HEARING POSTPONED

JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI - United States District Judge Sidney Mize has postponed a hearing sought by the Freedom Democratic Party (FDP) in its fight to gain legal recognition in the state.

The judge met with attorneys from the FDP and the state of Mississippi behind closed doors January 4 and ordered them to file additional briefs in the case.

Chancellor Stokes Robinson ruled last summer that the FDP had no legal right to use the word "democrat" in its title. Mississippi received an injunction against the FDP before the group challenged the all-white regular Democrats at Atlantic City last August.

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ATLANTA, GEORGIA - The Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) has more than 200 full-time staff members working in Arkansas, Alabama, Mississippi and Georgia.

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