

NEW ORLEANS BRANCH

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE

NEWS RELEASE

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Unofficial reports of persons registered to vote by the Orleans Parish Registrar in the newspapers indicate that an average of approximately 27 persons are registered per day by each deputy registrar. Where federal registrars are registering persons, an average of 80 persons are registered per day by each federal examiner.

This difference in persons registered by the Orleans Parish Registrar and federal examiners indicates either deliberate intent by the Orleans Parish Registrar's office or lack of qualification to NOT comply with the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

Until and unless the Voting Rights Act is declared unconstitutional by courts of law, the registrar is legally and duty bound to comply with the provisions of the Act and not with any rules and regulations as heretofore set forth by the Board of Registrars for the state of Louisiana.

Inasmuch as there are hundreds of persons in line at closing time each day and noting the slow pace that persons are registered by the Orleans Parish Registrar's office as compared with the federal examiners, we are concerned with the tension which is mounting in the Negro community.

The New Orleans Branch NAACP and the New Orleans NAACP Youth Council call upon all fair-minded citizens to lend their support through action to have Mr. Callinghouse desist from employing tactics which slows down the number of persons registered each day. These tactics can only be described as lack of respect for law and order which is un-American in practice.