

Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation

July 19, 1962

Burke Marshall
Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division

BM:SJB:arg 7429

Southwest Louisiana Vocational-
Technical School, Lake Charles, La.
Racial Matters - Contempt of Court

144-100-32-4

This Division is preparing a petition to the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana, for an order directing various state officials in this case to show cause why they should not be held in contempt for failing to accept applications from Negroes for enrollment in the Sewin Vocational-Technical School in Lake Charles, La. In connection with the petition we wish to have affidavits of Special Agents G. Myrwin Alderson and Carlyle W. Reed regarding certain portions of their interviews of Shelby M. Jackson and Rex H. Smelser, as set forth in the report of Special Agent Alderson of May 8, 1962. Mr. Barrett, of my staff, will contact your office to discuss the particular contents of each affidavit.

The interview of witness Julia Toliver Miller, set forth on page 33 of the report of Special Agent Ward of May 23, 1962, discloses that she had read in the American Press, a Lake Charles daily newspaper, that a course in practical nursing was being offered at the school. It is requested that the Bureau examine the back issues of the American Press, as well as any other newspaper in the Lake Charles area which might be expected to report similar information, to determine whether such announcement or report was, in fact, published. The examination of the newspapers should cover the period from August 1, 1961 to the present time, and any announcement of courses offered or applications for registration accepted at the trade school should be noted.

CC: Records
Chron.
Mr. Barrett
✓ Mr. Murphy
Mr. Marlin