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LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

Thursday, December 3, 1970

# LOCAL MAN TAKES OWN L

## LT. BOLDEN TAKES STAND

## **Receives Appointment**



Freddie Little, former Junior Middleweight Champion of the World and P. E. Instructor at Rancho High, was named Deputy Director of the Nevada State Department of Motor Vehicles, by Governor-Elect Mike O'Callahan.

Little became the first Black to be appointed to an administrative position by the recently

elected governor.

Freddie's appointment will make it necessary for him to move to the North, as his office will be in Carson City.

The City of Las Vegas Civil Service Board resumed the hearings Tuesday evening in the Council Chambers of the City of North Las

The first order of business, was a ruling by the board in a 4-1 decision that the motion to suppress the testimony of the polygraph expert witness of the defense was granted. Gripentrog then rested his case against Bolden.

Lt. Governor Harry Reid and Attorney John Fadgen then proceeded to call their witnesses. All those called were members of the L.V.P.D. Their testimony established that it was normal for many mistakes to be found that would raise the final written score as many as 10 points. One witness stated that three weeks after taking an exam and not being on the list, by chance found that he had in fact passed, but was not notified.

Lt. Bolden took the stand in his own defense." Questions by his attorneys pointed out that Bolden was a dedicated police officer, repected by his fellow officers and the community for all of his 31 years as a resident of Clark County.

The City Attorney attempted to have the hearings recessed until Wednesday night, so that he might have the opportunity to study Boldens testimony. The board suprisingly ruled that Gripentrog must cross examine Bolden before the hearings were recessed for the evening.

An interesting side light of the hearing was two 4-1 decisions handed down by the board, almost establishing a precedent for the NLV Council Chambers. Those of us who attend meetings in these chambers very seldom hear anything other than 3-2 decisions.

Lt. Governor-elect Harry Reid and his associate John Fadgen expect to conclude their defense arguements Wednesday night.

The questions in the minds of many Blacks and whites is NOT ONLY CAN Lt. Bolden get a fair shake, but will he. From some of the rulings and statements made by the chair we



Curtis Hunter, suspect in the triple slaying Mrs. Nannie Watts, Simon Watts and Tyrone Watts, took his own life barracaded in the bathroom of his home, while law enforcement officers attempted to arrest him as a suspect, Thanksgiving afternoon.

Hunters death brought to a close the investigation into what has been described as one of the most bizarre murder cases in the history of the community.

The why's and how's of those murdered will forever remain a secret.

Funeral services for Hunter were held Wednesday morning, with Bishop E. N. Webb officiating. Services for young Tyrone Watts were held Wednesday afternoon, with the Rev. Marion Bennett officiating. The services of Simon Watts are to be held in Monroeville, Alabama.

### Subpoena of black Reporter in panther investigation quashed by Appeals Court in LDF suit

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF .-- In a land mark decision underscoring the sanctity of a free press, the U. S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit has ruled this week that a reporter could not be required to testify before a secret grand jury unless the Federal Government was able to show a compelling need for his presence.

The action was brought by attorneys of the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc. (LDF) in behalf of NEW YORK TIMES reporter Earl Caldwell, who was subpoenaed last February to testify in a grand jury investigation of the Black Panther Party. Mr. Caldwell was ordered to bring his tape recordings and notes of interviews with Panther leaders.

LDF attorneys were appealing a district court order which directed Mr. Caldwell to testify, though granting him the privilege of withholding confidential information. He nevertheless refused to appear and was cited for contempt of court.

The LDF brief asked that the subpoena be quashed entirely, maintaining that:

Mr. Caldwell's appearance would destroy the relationship of trust between reporters and sensitive news sources, thereby severely hampering the gathering and analysis of news at a time of widespread dissent and ideological revolution; hence, his subponea represents a dangerous incursion upon First Amendment freedoms of the press;

the acknowledged board investigative powers of a federal grand jury must be justified by compelling governmental interest where First Amendment freedoms are jeopardized.

Several prominent newsmen filed affidavits and briefs in support of Mr. Caldwell's fight, including Walter Cronkite who concluded that: "compelling news correspondents to testify be-fore grand juries with respect to matters learned in the course of their work would largely destroy their utility as gathers of news."
In ruling that the judgement of contempt and

the order directing Mr. Caldwell's attendance before the grand jury be vacated, the Court of Appeals held that, in view of the District Court's protective order under which Mr. Cald-

(See PANTHERS, page 8)