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# LAS VEGAS VOICE

NEVADA'S BLACK COMMUNITY  
15 WEEKLY

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## Welfare Group Gets Hearing

The hearing of Ruby Duncan and the Clark County Welfare Rights Organization has been scheduled for January 17, 1975. Mrs. Duncan said, "She will lend full cooperation to the Food Stamp authorities, in order that, this lawsuit can be judicially resolved, as soon as possible, and more important, that poor people will be informed of their right to food stamps."

This hearing was made possible, by a lawsuit filed in Federal Court here, against the United States Department of Agriculture and the State Food Stamp Office, charging them with failure to advise all eligible persons of the food stamp program. The suit was filed on behalf of the Clark County Welfare Rights Organization in September.

The suit claims, that in Nevada, approximately 56,000 to 57,000 persons are eligible for food stamps, but only 15,000 participated in May, 1974. Therefore, over 70% of the eligible persons are not using

the program. "We see many families who cannot afford adequate nutritious food and who should be getting food stamps, but are not, because they do not know the program is for them," said Joan Bryon, Food Stamp Supervisor at the Clark County Welfare Rights Organization.

The lawsuit alleges that the failure of Nevada's Food Stamp Program to reach all eligible persons thwarts the intent of Congress, and as a result of poor outreach, some \$280 million appropriated for the Food Stamp Program nationally, went unspent in fiscal year 1973.

Nevada's lawsuit is one of 17 such suits filed throughout the country, by the Food Research and Action Center, located in New York. It seeks to require the State Food Stamp Office and USDA to implement an effective outreach plan, to advise eligible persons of the program, and encourage and assist them in applying.

## BLACK VOTERS

The Black Voters Association of Nevada became organized December 22, 1974. The executive Board was elected. Mr. James Walker was elected Chairman Pro-tem. Mr. Spurgin Daniels was elected as Treasurer. The Chairman set January 17, 1975 as the time of electing officers.

The membership fee is \$5.00 per year. No one is allowed to vote in the coming election unless they have paid this fee.

Mr. Walker emphasized the need for a minimum of 500 members, for this organization. He said, "In order for us to bring about needed change in West Las Vegas, we must be strong politically and economically." Mr. Walker fur-

ther stated, "That if you are out in the community or downtown loudmouthing off, or protesting, with no visible support or strength, you are wasting your time." He says, "We must have a strong organization."

Mr. Walker appointed the entire Executive Board, as a committee of one, to solicit members. Anyone who is interested in real change in West Las Vegas, is invited to join. Those persons who are interested in the Black Voter Association Endorsement, for Public Office should contact Mr. Walker, for an appointment at the Voice Office. Phone - 648-2616.

Our next meeting will be held Sunday, January 5, 1975 at 4:30 p.m., at the NAACP office.



L-R: Dr. W. Eugene Houston, Pastor James J. Henderson, Mayor Bradley, St. Elmo W. Crawford, Grand Board of Directors; George L. Brown, Lt. Governor of Colorado

Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., and the 59th Grand Chapter, held their first public meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada.

The public meeting was held to confer the Laurel Wreath Award on Mayor Thomas Bradley Mayor of the City of Los Angeles, and James J. Henderson, North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company Financial Vice President (retires).

The Honorable Thomas Bradley, electrified the nation's political leadership by winning the mayoralty race in the country's second largest urban center in June, 1973. In December of the same year, he stepped into the presidency of the 15,000-member National League of Cities. Past Grand Polemarch Bradley served the Fraternity as Western Province Polemarch and held the Fraternity's three highest elective offices... Grand Board of Directors, Senior Vice Grand Polemarch and Grand Polemarch.

James J. Henderson is the Company Consultant and retired Financial Vice President for Durham's North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company, the largest black owned business in the United States. Polemarch of the Durham Alumni for the past 16 years, Henderson served the Fraternity as Grand Keeper of Records, and Exchequer for a decade and was the first black to have been elected Chairman of the Board of Trustees for Hampton Institute.

The program consisted of: C. Rogers Wilson, Master of Ceremonies, Grand Polemarch; Invocation, Dr. W. Eugene Houston, Pastor Westminster Presbyterian Church Jamaica, New York; The National Anthem; Greetings from the City of Las Vegas, St. Elmo W. Crawford, Member Grand Board of Directors; Musical selection, "Somethin' Good Gonna Happen to You" by R. Carmichael, Second Baptist Church Choir, Dr. V.C.L. Coleman, pastor; Larry McCorvey, choir director, Joe Tugwell, accompanist; Introduction of Speaker, Charles F. McAfee, Polemarch Western Province; Address, The Honorable George L. Brown Lt. Governor-elect, The State of Colorado; Musical Selections, "You'll Never Walk Alone" "Somebody Bigger", Second Baptist Church Choir; Conferral of the Laurel Wreath Award, Dr. Elbert E. Allen, Grand Polemarch; Benediction, Dr. W. Eugene Houston.

## LAUREL WREATH AWARD CONFERRED ON MAYOR THOMAS BRADLEY



Laurel Wreath Winners - L-R: James J. Henderson, Dr. Elbert E. Allen, Grand Polemarch; and Mayor Thomas S. Bradley.



L-R: Honorable George L. Brown, Lt. Governor of Colorado, Dr. Elbert E. Allen, Grand Polemarch, and Honorable Mervyn Dymally, Lt. Governor of California.

### EDITORS NOTES:

DONALD CLAY, FORMER EDITOR - IS NO LONGER WITH THE VOICE.

DUE TO RISING COSTS, THE VOICE IS FORCED TO INCREASE IT'S ADVERTISING RATES. NEW RATES CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 18.