

# NEW CREDIT UNION FOR WEST LAS VEGAS?



On 9-19-77 a group of some 15 men and women met at Westside Library with Glen A. Reese, managing director of Nevada Credit Union League for the purpose of forming Grass Roots Credit Union. Mr. Reese assured us we would get our charter in 3 weeks and that our certificate of application was in proper order. I repeatedly called Mr. Reese weekly after the three week period to inquire and was told that there was no problem with our application and that we would soon receive it. After about two months, S.C.L.C. pulled out as our field of membership. I was advised, and Las Vegas Improvement Association became the field of membership. I personally took the letter of their intent to Mr. Reese, at which time he said the letter would be in office, that he was going to Carson City the next day and would ask Miss Willmore to issue our Charter at that time. Repeated phone calls to Mr. Reese's office brought statements he was in Carson City at Dept. of Commerce Office with Miss Willmore or he was in conference and would call back. He never returned my calls and finally I asked his secretary "Pat" to advise him we were going to start an investigation, and to please send me a letter stating the issuance of our charter was being delayed because of the heavy work load as he had claimed. Finally,

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we had our Vice President, Cy Newman, of Radio Station, KVOV, call William Swackhammer, Secretary of State, and Miss Willmore about our charter about January 26, 1978, and both Swackhammer and Willmore said they had never received our application, nor the \$325.00 we gave Mr. Reese on 9-19-77. I called Miss Willmore, who told me the same. She said they had just appointed Rochelle LeVine Berkley Chief Assistant Nevada State Dept. of Commerce in Las Vegas. I called her and she told me she would review our application with Glen Reese on 2-21-78. On 2-28-78 I called and threatened an investigation of all the lies I had been told and he answered the phone. I told him we were sick of the lies and asked him to return our money -- \$325.00 with interest. He has failed to refund our money and Mrs. Rochelle Berkley finally sent us a letter on 3-17-78.

Stating a denial our application because she thought we started an organization only to have a credit union (an absolute lie) and that they doubted the credit union deposit group (similar to F.D.I.C.) would approve a former bankrupt as treasurer (Thomas F. Hughes). I enclose a copy of our articles of incorporation aims and purpose.

I submit that no application was filed  
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**VOICE**

NEVADA'S BLACK  
 COMMUNITY WEEKLY  
 "An Uninterrupted  
 Publication Since 1963"

15¢

## POLICE WAGE WAR ON BLACK COMMUNITY

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The recent denial of LEAA funds to the City of Las Vegas (County?) resulted from a class action suit filed against the Dept. by three inmates presently being held in the County Jail. An official ruling has determined that conditions at the jail are deplorable, as well as discriminatory, and therefore the area is unqualified to receive LEAA funds. It appears then, that the City of Las Vegas (County) may further aggravate this situation by continuing the use of other discriminatory procedures when dealing with Black people. A typical case in point -- the theft of the automobile of Mr. Tommy Shaw by a local bondsman, and subsequent refusal by the Dept. to allow Mr. Shaw to file a complaint.

On Friday, April 14, 1978 at approximately 1:30 to 2:00, Mr. Shaw stopped to have lunch



at a Westside restaurant. While inside, a green late-model Cadillac occupied by a WHITE MALE AND WHITE FEMALE, approached the establishment. The woman then got out of the car, entered Mr. Shaw's car with her own key, and drove away.

Mr. Shaw then called Metro, and the dispatcher informed him that no officers were available to take a stolen car report. He then went to his attorney and inquired as to why Metro could not, or would not, take a report. The attorney then informed Shaw that he could in fact file a report in person at the Dept. if he desired.

Shaw, accompanied by a younger brother, then proceeded to file the report in person, only to be told that there was a 'VICE HOLD' on the automobile. Shaw was later to find out that a local bail bondsman had a hold on the car, although the bondsman could not produce legal documents empowering him to do so. The bondsman informed Mr. Shaw that his former wife had signed the car over to him in July of 1977 to settle a previous debt. Mr. Shaw had no knowledge of this transaction at the time. The car in question was awarded to Mr. Shaw as the result of a divorce court settlement November 14, 1977.

On April 14, 1978, between 7:30 PM and 3:00 AM, an unknown man went to Mr. Shaw's residence and informed him that the ex-wife and the local bondsman had paid him to arrange the theft of the auto. The man stated that he was willing to retrieve the car for a sizable fee (\$400.00), but that he could not deliver it to the Shaw home, preferring instead to have Mr. Shaw follow him to a place "behind the Boulevard Mall". During this time

two (2) carloads of men sat ominously out-  
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ORIGINAL DEFECTIVE