

Diallo

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brutality, particularly against minority residents.

One case that infuriated the city's Black community was the brutal beating of Haitian immigrant Abner Loumain in 1997 at a Brooklyn police station. Officers involved in the incident have yet to stand trial.

Guiliani has struggled to calm passions over the Diallo tragedy. He spent 45 minutes briefing the Guinean Ambassador to the United Nations, Mahawa Bangoura Kamara, and the Guinean Ambassador to the United States and Brazil, Mohammad Thiam, on the case.

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— Rev. Jesse Jackson

He also spoke with Diallo's father, who arrived in New York last week from Vietnam where he works as a gem trader. The young Diallo's mother retrieve her son's body.

A funeral service for Diallo was held Feb. 12 at a Manhattan mosque after which his parents took the body back to Guinea.

"It is time for an extensive overhaul within the New York Police department, and

it is time for some change within the mayor's office," said the Rev. Jesse Jackson, who serves as special envoy to President Clinton for the Promotion of Democracy and Human Rights in Africa.

"[The shooting] was excessive force at its worst," said Kweisi Mfume, president of the NAACP. "[We] simply do not believe there is any legitimate excuse or explanation for what took place."

Two major rallies in New York City held recently each drew more than 1,000 people including West Africans, African-Americans and others.

Diallo's death "opened up all the wounds again of all the mothers that are here," said Iris Baez, whose own son died in 1994 after a police officer applied an illegal choke hold on him.

The Rev. Michel Faulkner said he hoped the mayor would "understand the amount of tremendous pain that communities of color are in over this incident. If he does not, I really think this will be a permanent blight on his administration."

Supremacist

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as 30,000 supporters could not be verified.

Illinois officials say the last case similar to Hale's was in the early 1950s, when a law student refused to take an anti-Communist loyalty oath.

The U.S. Supreme Court last considered a similar case in 1971, when two applicants for law licenses in other states would not reveal their political beliefs. The court

ruled in their favor.

The ADL believes Hale shouldn't be denied a law license because of the "slippery slope" it creates, said Andrew Shoenthal, assistant director in the group's Chicago office.

For instance, Shoenthal asked, could a prospective lawyer who opposes abortion or supports school prayer be denied a license if a majority in his community held an

opposite view? The Illinois State Bar Association has yet to take a position on Hale's case, but spokesman Dave Anderson said the case "is a hot topic (among lawyers) right now, with spirited debate on both sides."

Hale, meanwhile, was fired by the law firm because he couldn't obtain the license. He lives with his parents in East Peoria, with an office in their home.

He is optimistic he'll get his license and plans to open a solo practice. He hopes to challenge affirmative action laws and the littering law for which he was cited.

"For me, the true test of character is whether a person says what they think, which is what I have always done," Hale said. "I believe I show more character than most attorneys in that I actually practice what I preach."

House reinstates power of D.C. mayor

WASHINGTON (AP)— As one of the first acts of the new Congress, the House voted Tuesday to return to the mayor of the nation's capital some of the power it stripped from his predecessor, Marion Barry.

On a unanimous vote, the House decided to give new District of Columbia Mayor Anthony Williams authority to hire and fire city administrators. The bill also would give the 13-member city council the authority to approve mayoral appointees without intervention by a federally appointed financial control board.

"It is a demonstration of confidence in the new mayor," said Del. Eleanor Holmes Norton, D-D.C., who authored the bill. "This body is prepared to build a new relationship with the District of Columbia."

The mayor and the city council had their power diminished in 1997 as part of the federal government's takeover of D.C. government finances after the city accumulated a debt of \$332 million.

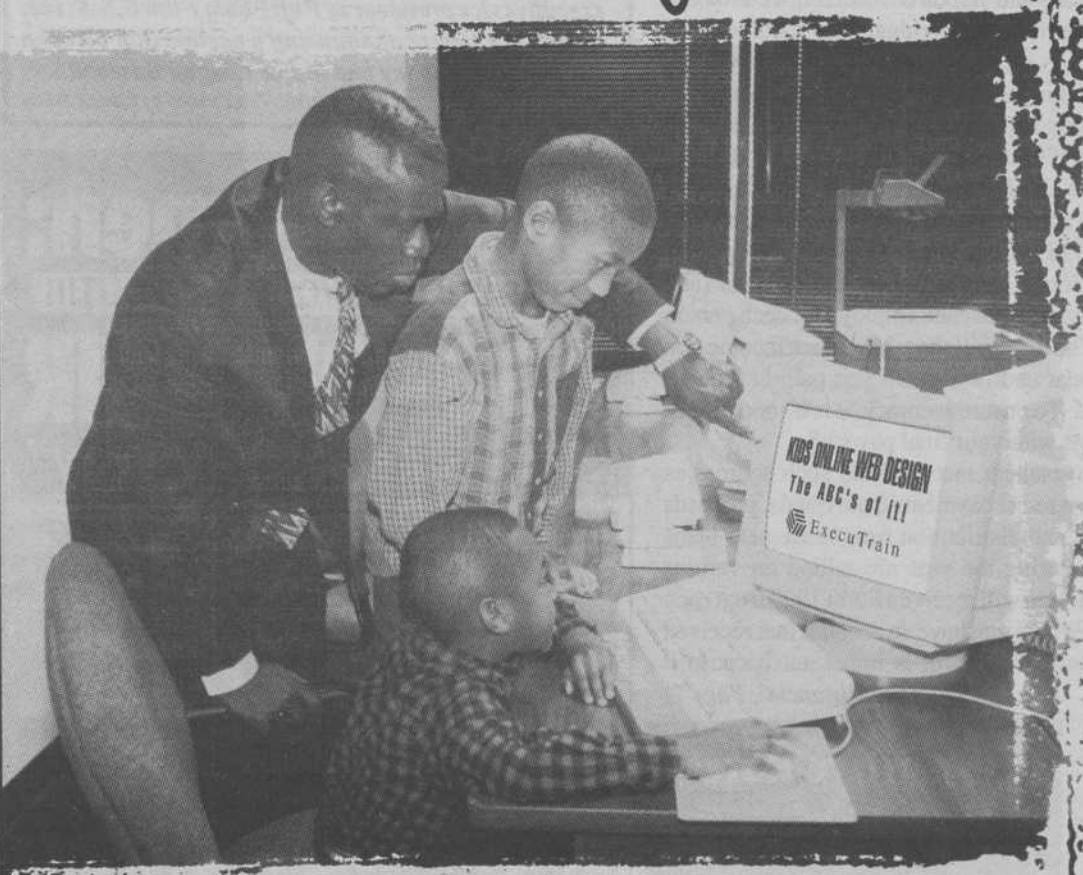
Norton said all indications are that the Senate will support the legislation once it resumes normal business now that the impeachment trial of President Clinton has concluded. "We've been assured no one finds anything in the bill they object to, Norton said. "Only impeachment kept the bill from moving forward."

Norton got vocal support on the House floor from Rep. Thomas M. Davis III, R-Va., who chairs the House Government Oversight subcommittee on the District of Columbia. "If we want democracy to succeed, we need to allow elected leadership in the city to start making decisions," Davis said.

When Williams was sworn into office in January, the five-member control board returned to the mayor's office control of public safety, public health and other government agencies that it had stripped from Barry.

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