## The LAS VEGAS SENTINEL-VOICE

## Rock

(Continued from Page 4) last week that after initial discussions, the complaint was finalized Aug. 7 and his agency also was investigating. He would not comment on the complaint.

"We get thousands of charges coming through here in the course of a year," he said. "It's not out of line ---the time frame on this. It is being investigated and we will be in touch with her when we have a report."

## Ellison

(Continued from Page 15) ing states.

The report concluded that the U.S. Justice Department has investigated more than 600 incidents of backlash since the 9/11 attacks and won convictions against 22 of the 27 defendants that it chose to prosecute.

"We believe the biggest factor contributing to anti-Muslim feeling and the resulting acts of bias is the growth in Islamophobic rhetoric that has flooded the Internet and talk radio in the post-9/11 era," said CAIR Legal Director Arsaian Iftikhar, the report's author. "Islam-phobia" is reflected in the negative images and buzzwords that produce stereotyping, physical and verbal attacks, along with racial profiling of Muslims of color, including Muslims of African descent.

If CAIR is as bad as Fine and others claim, then why have many governmental officials regularly met with

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Rev. Al Sharpton is expected to join Rock this week are slow to act on such comin South Carolina to announce that Sharpton's Action Network will finance the planned lawsuit. They have appeared together on televised news programs to discuss the incident and planned lawsuit.

"I'm getting reports from all over the country about Cracker Barrel," Sharpton said from New York last Tuesday.

them, Hooper asked - including President George Bush, who was photographed with Awad after the 9/11 attacks.

"I can't count the number of state delegations that come through our office on a weekly basis," he said, adding that FBI officials met with CAIR last week "on a variety of issues relating to civil rights in the American Muslim community."

Throughout his campaign, Fine has constantly repeated that character is a top issue, especially regarding Ellison and his past ties to the Nation of Islam. Tiedeman was quick to point out that "This is not an issue of race and religion, [but] character is an issue.'

However, on the issue of character, the October 7 Star Tribune ran a front-page story reporting that Fine was charged with domestic violence in 1995; his record was expunged nine years later. Also reported was that five

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domestic disturbance 911 calls to Minneapolis police have come from Fine's residence from 1995 to April 2005. Fine told the newspaper that he is innocent.

He also said state officials

"When people are talking

about there is no more dis-

crimination, a lot of it is be-

cause they are not following

this stuff up," Sharpton said.

lished in 1969, operates 547

restaurants in 41 states, ac-

cording to the company's

website. Georgetown is

about 60 miles northeast of

Charleston.

Cracker Barrel, estab-

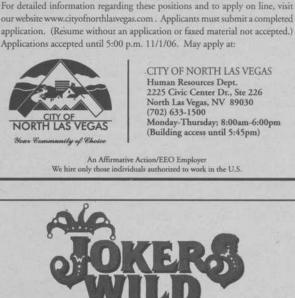
plaints

Fine's recent mailing is reminiscent of the 1950s "Red Scare," when many U.S. citizens were accused of being communists; just substitute the word "terrorist." Has he now resorted to using scare tactics so that Fifth District voters will select him over Ellison? Tiedeman insists not, but Hooper disagrees and calls the act "part of the [political] game."

"I think it's a tactic of fear," agreed Ken Foxworth, Democratic National Committee Black Caucus deputy chairman. "We should be talking about the high rate of crime and economic development in our community. Let's talk about [the] present and not old news.'

Charles Hallman writes for the Minnesota Spokesman-Recorder.

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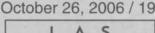
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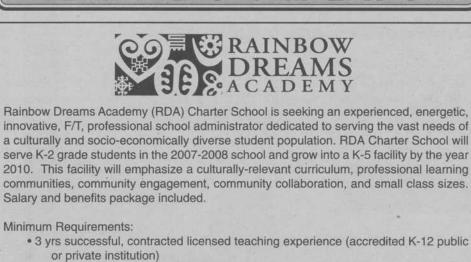
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