

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Address Reply to the Division Indicated and Refer to Initials and Number FMD : mh s 72-33-47

JUN 1 4 1962

Reverend John Henry Scott Route 1, Box 1-B Lake Providence, Louisiana

Dear Reverend Scott:

I am enclosing a copy of the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Decree entered by Judge Ben C. Dawkins, Jr., on May 30, 1962, in the case of <u>United</u> States v. Manning, et al.

By his Decree Judge Dawkins has ordered Mr. Manning to accept applications from Negroes and evaluate them on the same basis as he evaluates the applications of white persons seeking to register to vote in East Carroll Parish.

Specifically, Mr. Manning is required to permit Negroes to apply for registration if they can identify themselves by any of the means set out in paragraph 4 of the Decree. However, the documents named in the subparagraphs of paragraph 4 are not the only methods of identification that he must accept. You will note that paragraph 3 requires him to "make reasonable inquiry as to the identity of Negroes seeking to apply for registration." In addition, paragraph 4 compels him to accept reasonable proof of identity, which includes, but is not limited to, those mentioned in subparagraphs a, b, and c.

Furthermore, the effect of the Decree is not limited to the identification process. Mr. Manning has been ordered to refrain from "any act or practice which involves or results in distinctions based on race or color between Negro citizens and other citizens in the registration for voting and voting processes in East Carroll Parish, Louisiana." You should also be aware that under the provisions of 42 U.S.C. 1971(e) any Negro whose application for registration to vote in East Carroll Parish is rejected, now is entitled to apply directly to the Court for an Order declaring that he is qualified to vote. The Court must then give him a hearing within ten days. If the Court finds that he is qualified, he will receive a certificate of qualification which must be honored at the polls. I will explain this law to you in greater detail when I am in East Carroll Parish next week. I will not be able to make it this week as I had originally planned.

Sincerely,

Frank Dunbary L

FRANK M. DUNBAUGH Attorney

Enclosure