

# Business News

## "BLACK WOMEN AND THE LAW" Conference Held

"Black women will clearly be a major social force during the coming decade. We have the potential for creating a social movement that will become a social revolution," says Lauren Anderson, Associate Director of the National Conference of Black Lawyers. The NCBL recently sponsored "Black Women and the Law," a 2½-day conference for black women that focused on the legal, political, social, and economic issues that have special impact upon their lives. The national conference convened on the campus of Fisk University in Nashville, Tennessee.

"The rising tide of political conservatism makes it all the more critical that we come together to define a 'black women's agenda,'" Ms. Anderson continued. "One important issue is the increasing pressures to eliminate affirmative action.

"There's also the threat to our reproductive rights posed by the cutbacks in Medicaid funded abortion and by the

so-called Human Life Amendment that will outlaw almost all abortions," Ms. Anderson added. "We also face cutbacks in legal and social services. All of these elements will weigh disproportionately on black women and their families." Because the law has shaped and defined the status of blacks in general and black women in particular, the women members of NCBL feel a natural responsibility to join with other black women for this unprecedented forum.

The conference was attended by black women from all over the country, and included issue-oriented sessions and workshops. The topics were: Patriarchy and the U.S. Legal System; The Black Woman in the Family; Health, Politics, Abortion Rights, and Sterilization Abuse; Employment Rights, Affirmative Action, and Other Workplace Issues; Criminal Justice/Injustice; Black Women as Offenders, as Victims of Violence. Angela Davis was the keynote speaker for the opening session of the conference.

## TAYLOR TO HEAD COMMITTEE

In an effort to raise sufficient funds for a special investigation, preventative programs and psychological counseling concerning the recent murders of 17 children in Atlanta, LeBaron Taylor, Vice President and General Manager, Divisional Affairs, CBS Records, has announced the formation of Concerned Members of the Recording Industry, of which Mr. Taylor will be General Chairman.

This national committee has already gained substantial support from recording companies and artists across the country. East Coast Co-Chairmen are Ahmet Ertegun, Chairman of the Board, Atlantic Recording Corp., and Henry Allen, President, Cotillion Records and Senior Vice President, Atlantic Recording Corp., and West Coast Chairmen are Joe Smith, Chairman of the Board, Elektra/Asylum/Nonesuch Records and Clarence Avant, President, Tabu Records. Key industry figures who have joined the committee as members include: M. Richard Asher, Deputy President, CBS Records Group; David Braun, President, Polygram; Joe Cohen, Executive Vice President, NARM; Allen Davis, President, CBS Records International; Clive Davis, President, Arista Records; Larry Depte, President, Philadelphia International Records;

Gil Friesen, President, A&M Records; Kenny Gamble, Chairman of the Board, Philadelphia International Records; Stan Gortikov, President, RIAA; Leon Huff, Co-Chairman of the Board, Philadelphia International Records; Michael Jackson; Gladys Knight; Bruce Lundvall, President, CBS Records; Rod McGrew, President, Unlimited Gold Records; Jerry Moss, Chairman of the Board, A&M Records; Mo Ostin, President, Warner Bros. Records; Mel Posner, President, Elektra/Asylum/Nonesuch Records; Robert Summer, President, RCA; Barry White, Walter Yetnikoff, President, CBS Records Group; Don Zimmerman, President, Capitol Records, and others.

Mr. Taylor added that the committee worked in conjunction with a special benefit concert held on March 10 at the Atlanta Civic Center, which featured Frank Sinatra and Sammy Davis, Jr. However, the committee's fund-raising efforts will extend beyond the concert, and donations will be sought on an ongoing basis from all areas in the music industry. Corporate donations will be officially recognized by the City of Atlanta. The monies being raised by the organization will be contributed to the special police investigation as well as funding for preventative programs

and psychological testing for the children of Atlanta.

Mr. Taylor commented that, "The City of Atlanta has reached out for assistance in raising funds for this vital investigation. It is imperative that the record industry demonstrate its concern over these tragic crimes against our children. We hope that the funds brought about through this organization will help bring an end to these terrible acts of violence."

Company and personal donations should be sent and made payable to:

APB Investigative Benefit Fund  
Mayor Maynard Jackson  
City Hall  
Atlanta, Ga. 30335

## Reagan backs away from business commitment

by BOB ADAMS

If you were thinking of going into business with an SBA loan, Reagan's budget makes it much less likely that you will succeed. According to SBA sources, Reagan's budget revisions reduce U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) direct lending by a total of \$45 million in Fiscal 1981 and \$116 million in 1982, for a whopping total of \$128 million. The Guaranteed Loan Program will be reduced by \$990 million in 1981 and \$1.5 billion in 1982, nearly one quarter of the program.

Ironically, Reagan's own Small Business Issues Task Force reported on November 14, 1980, "Small business accounts for over 55 percent of all nonagricultural employment and 45 percent of GNP in the United States. It also produces over 50% of all new inventions, innovations and patents. Between 1967 and 1976, 66 percent of all new jobs were created by firms of less than 100 employees, many located in the centers of large cities."

We have all been led to believe that the \$30 billion cuts in services were made to allow the stimulation of the private sector. Minority business people will recall that during the election, Reagan representatives were very explicit in saying that Minority business would be stimulated under a Conservative Reagan Administration. It now appears that those promises were a ploy and the whole argument about stimulating industry was a sham. There seems to be little more in Reagan's moves than the effort to free the rich and powerful from their responsibilities to the rest of the nation.

The most hypocritical of Reagan's budgetary initiatives is the possibility

*Continued on page 12*