

### Tycoon Ted Turner in land dispute with African Americans about S.C. island

ATLANTA — Media mogul Ted Turner is waging a legal battle over 68 acres on St. Helena Island in South Carolina that is also claimed by descendants of slaves who inhabited the coastal barrier islands.



Turner

According to court documents in Beaufort, S.C., Turner says the wooded land is part of 298 acres he acquired for recreational use in 1979.

But heirs to property bought by 47 Gullah men in 1920 claim the land is theirs. The Gullah men descended from the slaves who inhabited the sea islands. Because of their isolation, they were able to maintain a distinct language and culture.

The heirs told The Atlanta Journal-Constitution that they have a deed and plat for the disputed property as well as a 1996 court order showing the land belongs to them.

W. Foster Gaillard, a Charleston lawyer representing the CNN founder, said Turner filed suit against Lands End last year because he wants to protect his investment.

Gaillard said Turner knew nothing about the heritage of the Lands End people.

Lands End claims the land is part of 320 acres their ancestors bought 82 years ago for \$3,200, also for recreational use and family reunions.

Cartwright said some people in the Lands End group fear the property will be used for more than recreation. Since the 1960s, the sea islands have experienced intense commercial development — notably nearby Hilton Head Island and Fripp Island.

Turner has been called the nation's largest private landowner, with 1.7 million acres. His holdings include 15 ranches in six Western and Midwestern states, according to AOL Time Warner, of which he is vice chairman.

### Chief fined \$9,500 for racial slur

KEANSBURG, N.J. — The borough's acting police chief was fined \$9,500 for making a racist remark while directing a police officer to order a group of blacks to move on before they committed a crime.

Under a penalty announced Friday, Chief Michael Kennedy can pay the fine in cash, by forfeiting unused vacation or compensatory time, or a combination of both.

Mayor Michael Minervini called it a "swift and severe punishment that will also work as a deterrent against any such similar behavior."

But the decision angered local black leaders, who wanted Kennedy removed from his post.

Kennedy called police headquarters the evening of May 2 and told a patrolman to disperse "a bunch of (expletive) niggers" near a bank cash machine on Main Street where, he suggested, they could be lying in wait for an ATM customer.

At a news conference, Kennedy said he is ashamed of "using such horrible language in the performance of my duties."

"I know in my heart that I am not a racist," Kennedy said. "However, after 24 years as a street cop, I should know that this behavior is not acceptable for anyone, and I am deeply sorry for any embarrassment I may have caused this community."

Kennedy will be required to attend cultural diversity and sensitivity training.

Howard L. West Sr., president of the NAACP's Asbury Park-Neptune Branch, said the only appropriate penalty would have been Kennedy's immediate dismissal from his \$106,000-a-year post.

"Timing is an element," he told the Asbury Park Press for Saturday's editions. "If they wait long enough, (officials) think people will forget. But this is a marathon; we're not going away."

### Detroit Democrats ready to make pitch for 2004 national convention

DETROIT — The Motor City's diversity and its importance to the labor movement are among the keys to bringing the 2004 Democratic National Convention to Detroit, local officials say.

Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick's office and the Detroit Metropolitan Convention & Visitors Bureau are organizing a three-day visit by the party's site selection committee.



Kilpatrick

New York, Boston and Miami also are on the Democrats' short list of finalists for the weeklong convention, which is expected to attract 50,000 people and generate \$150 million in local spending.

The local officials' pitch uses the slogan "The drive to the White House starts in Detroit," the Detroit Free Press reported in a Saturday story.

The 25-member committee's Detroit visit will include dinner at the mayor's residence, breakfast with labor leaders, lunch at the Charles H. Wright Museum of African-American History and entertainment at the Fox Theatre.

They also will visit potential venues, including Ford Field, Cobo Hall and Joe Louis Arena, where the Republican National Convention was held in 1980.

But organizers also will have to prove that Detroit, with only 3,000 hotel rooms, can quickly get delegates from the suburbs to the convention site.

Democrats are to visit New York on July 29. DNC Chairman Terry McAuliffe will choose among the four cities after consulting with the site selection delegates. A decision on where and when the convention will be held will be announced after the Nov. 5 general elections.

# Criminal justice system discriminates against Latino youths, new report says

BY LESLIE MILLER  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Treatment of Latino youths in the U.S. juvenile justice system is harsher than for non-Hispanic white juveniles — and it's getting worse, according to a report commissioned by several groups that sponsor a campaign to end such inequities.

The report said disproportionate numbers of Latino youths are detained before trial in most states.

It also said the percentage of Latino youths in the nation's detention centers rose by 84 percent between 1983 and 1991, compared with an 8 percent increase for non-Hispanic white youths over the same period and a 46 percent increase for youths overall.

"They are arrested more often, stopped more often, detained more often, incarcerated more often and for longer periods of time," said Nancy Walker, co-author of the report and associate director of the Institute for Children, Youth and Families at Michigan State University.

Even when Latino kids are charged with the same offenses as their white counterparts, they're punished more severely, the report found. Latino youths who've never been detained are 13 times more likely to be incarcerated for drug offenses than non-Hispanic white youths — and they'll spend more than twice as much time in jail, the report said.

The report's other co-author,

Francisco Villarruel, blames recent anti-gang statutes for the apparent crackdown on Latino youths. He said he is hearing more stories from Latino youths picked up by the police for simply standing on street corners.

"It's bad, but chances are it's worse," said Villarruel, associate professor of family and child ecology at Michigan State University. "This is only what we can see."

The data are inadequate because state and county governments don't have a single category for "Hispanic" or "Latino," he said.

A child with a Puerto Rican father and black mother, for example, would be "African American" in California, "Hispanic" in Michigan and "biracial" in Ohio. In Arizona, children can define their own race or ethnicity.

The report also found:  
• In Los Angeles County in 1998, Latino youths were 1.9 times as likely as non-Hispanic white youths to be arrested for violent offenses.

• In 36 states in 1993, Latino juveniles 10 and older charged with property offenses were incarcerated an average of 45 days longer than white youths.

• In 21 states in 2000, Latino youths were two to 17 times more likely to be incarcerated with adults as white youths.

The study was commissioned by Building Blocks for Youth, a campaign by groups — such as the Youth Law Center and the Juvenile Law Center — seeking to end the justice system's disparate treatment of minority youths.



The number of young Latinos being detained in the United States rose by more than 80 percent between 1983 and 1991, according to national statistics.

# Urban League moves convention



Price

BY ANDRIA Y. CARTER  
THE CINCINNATI HERALD

CINCINNATI, Ohio — The city's suspension of its highest ranking African-American police officers and the picketing of the National Urban League's local affiliate here this week were the reasons given for the organization's decision to move its 2003 convention from Cincinnati.

Hugh Price, president of the National Urban League, said, "The combination of the timing of the disciplinary action of Lt. Col. Ron Twitty and coupled with the boycott taking out their difference with us by picketing, who needs this?"

"It's not worth it. It's just a convention. It's a big country and there are lots of places to go," Price said.

The convention will be held at the Los Angeles Convention Center July 27-31.

Price said several affiliates were very excited about coming to Cincinnati. Organization officials were hoping to stage a convention that not only assisted boycott leaders to take hard look at Cincinnati, but also provide a national focus on the Kerner Commission report released in the 1960s and how relevant it is today.

Price added that Sheila Adams, the local Urban League president, understood why he made the decision to pull the convention. "She felt blindsided by the police as well."

Cincinnati's tourism industry has lost more than \$10 million since the boycott was announced last year. The National Urban League would have brought about 5,000 peo-

ple to the city and would have pumped about \$4 million into the local economy.

Lisa Haller, president of the Greater Cincinnati Convention and Visitors Bureau, said the Urban League's cancellation makes it much more difficult to attract conventions to Cincinnati. She noted that organizations are making their decisions right now concern-

ing conventions in 2004 and 2005, and the Urban League's actions will influence their decisions.

"We salute and strongly support the concerted efforts of Sheila Adams and the Greater Cincinnati Urban League to promote healing, justice and progress in the city," Price said. "The National Urban League hopes that in

the months and years ahead, leaders from city government, the private sector and the aggrieved communities will succeed in reforming the Police Department and closing the opportunity gaps in education, employment, affordable housing and economic development that isolate our people from the economic and social mainstream in Cincinnati."

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