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Suit Filed Against Trustees

Store Owner Shot And Killed In Apparent Robbery Attempt

A 72 year-old owner of a small store was shot and killed Thursday (Feb. 13, 1975) about 1 p.m. in an apparent

the road in the 1400 block of North Main Street. He had been shot once in the chest.

The slain man was

years at 1493 N. Trade Street.

Jones, who was alone in the store, had been shot in the chest with a 20 gauge shotgun and was dead when police arrived.

A warrant was later issued for Michael May, 17, of Greenway Avenue charging him with murder. May at last report was still in Baptist Hospital. He is under police guard.

Police were not sure at the time of the shooting if money had been taken from the store, but said that it was apparently a robbery attempt.

Investigating officers stated that a pistol and a spent cartridge were found near the feet of the dead man.

A young man who would not identify himself said that he was on his way to the store to get a package of cigarettes when he heard the shots. He said a man then ran from the store and turned the corner on North Main Street.

A short time later a man was found lying on North Main Street. He had been shot in the chest. It was reported that after he had been found a man took a sawed-off shot gun which was stuffed inside the wounded man's pants and left the scene. The man also took a spent shell from the chamber of the gun.

The gun was later recovered by the police. A 20 gauge shot gun shell was also found near the man's right pants pocket.

The investigation continues.

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A civil suit has been filed against the Trustee Board of the St. James A.M.E. Zion Church of Winston-Salem involving misuse of funds. The details of the suit were not attainable at this report (Feb. 18, 1975).

The suit, however, grew out of dissatisfaction of six people who were scheduled to take part in an Hawaiian trip last July. Mrs. Louise Jones, one of the dissatisfied participants, told the Chronicle the story behind the suit.

She said the trip was scheduled for July 9, 1974 and cost each person \$525. In June, James Smith who was the agent, told them the trip had been cancelled, according to Mrs. Jones. She said although they did not find out

about the cancellation until June, the Rev. J.T. McMillan had found out from the airlines that the trip had been cancelled in February.

"The pastor of the church, Rev. J.T. McMillan, found out that Smith had not sent the payments in on time and the airlines cancelled," she said. Neither Smith nor Rev. McMillan were available for comment. The Rev. McMillan's wife said he was out of town and Smith could not be reached.

Mrs. Jones said that two other people were working with Smith coordinating the trip and collecting money, Mrs. Sarah Marsh and Mrs. Annie B. Farabee. Mrs.

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Sumler Says Firing Racially Motivated



Rodney Sumler

"All it takes is an accusation of a Black official for him to have to prove himself innocent, rather than being proven guilty."

That is the thinking of Rodney Sumler who was fired recently from his city recreation department job.

Sumler, in an interview recently, stated that this is the main reason he is determined to fight the firing by Pat Swann, head of the recreation department.

Sumler, who was in charge of Cultural and Special Activities for the W-S Recreational Dept., said he plans to take the case to court in order that his innocence

might be proved to the people.

Sumler feels that his firing was politically and racially motivated. "I am speaking publicly because whites have taken advantage of blacks for too long," he said. Sumler said he is concerned that the black community may suffer because of his firing. "Many of the programs I started in order to aid black and underprivileged people will now be discontinued."

Sumler said he has worked in recreation for 17 years and only in the past 1 1/2 years has his record of honesty been questioned. He credits this doubt of honesty to the fact that he changed his political status from Democrat to Republican. He said he has been pressured ever since to give up his job.

Sumler also stated that he feels he was fired because whites do not want competent blacks in decision making positions. "The accusations against me were biased, concluded and incomplete and

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The body of 72 year-old Elijah Whitaker Jones is removed from his small store where he was shot and killed.

robbery attempt.

Shortly after the shooting a man police believed to be the assailant was found lying in

identified as Elijah Whitaker Jones. Jones' sister stated that Jones had operated the small store for more than 20

NCCU Law School Faces Loss Of Accreditation

The only predominantly Black law school in the state is in danger of losing its accreditation, according to news reports.

The American Bar Association has given warning to North Carolina Central University (NCCU) in Durham, that if its facilities are not improved, its law school will not be accredited. N.C. Central will have to submit a comprehensive improvement plan by June 1. This comes in the aftermath of repeated attempts by the school to upgrade its facilities. Presently, there is only one building housing the main classrooms, law library, and administrative offices.

A few months ago there had been talk among some high level officials of closing the law school all together. Many felt that because of the high rate of failure of Central's students when they take the N.C. Bar exam. Fewer than 20% of the Black law school graduates pass the exam each year. There have been no whites to flunk and only a few Indians have attended.

More notably, however, is the quality of Central's law graduates. Some of Central's graduate are:

Maynard Jackson, Mayor of Atlanta; Julius Chambers, who dealt successfully with

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