



Dale Bledsoe staged a protest outside of Project Homestead's Greensboro offices. Bledsoe claims that the nonprofit's president, the Rev. Michael King, used the organization to back a bond for a friend's limousine.

Did Project Homestead step over line of propriety?

By BRIDGET EVARTS
The CHRONICLE Staff Writer

Can a nonprofit organization sign for a bond on a limousine?

Yes, according to representatives of two surety agencies, a nonprofit can back that type of bond, so long as the vehicle is used for the organization's business. But signing a bond for an outside party's limousine is another story altogether.

"Unless the agency has a reason, it's something to question," said Darryl McCarroll of Darryl Surety Agency in Greensboro.

John Archer of Burlington's Archer Bonding specializes in court bonds. He said that his company would not issue the type of bond Project Homestead allegedly backed for Lawson.

"This is just my opinion, but this is something they (Project Homestead) have no business being involved in," said Archer.

Greensboro nonprofit housing provider Project Homestead is backing an \$86,000 bond, signed by Mays Insurance for the Harrisburg-based Pennsylvania National Mutual Casualty Insurance Company. Pennsylvania

National has the bond registered for housing contracts; however, the bond may have actually been used for a limousine owned by a man who has worked for King.

The 1995 Mercedes limousine's owner, Lorraine Lawson, has worked for King and King's former business associate, Dale Bledsoe. Bledsoe and Lawson are currently involved in a legal battle over that car; Bledsoe recently lost a dispute with King over two other limousines.

Project Homestead and Bledsoe

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Little Rock Nine join Clintons' call for unity

By JAMES JEFFERSON
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

LITTLE ROCK (AP) — While the city they once called home still struggles with racial issues, members of the Little Rock Nine lit candles with President and Hillary Rodham Clinton on Saturday to express their wish for unity.

On the grounds of Philander Smith College, which offered tutoring to the nine while Gov. Orval E. Faubus kept them out of Central High School in 1957, one of the nine said black Americans, particularly children, need total access to opportunities.

"We want it all," Terrence Roberts said. Little Rock still has its racial divisions.

The state's NAACP chapter declined to mark the 40th anniversary of Central's desegregation, saying the city planned the hoopla to help it win federal grants for urban improvements.

Also, the school system is predominantly black in a city that is predominantly white, and black leaders want a civil commission to investigate allegations of brutality toward blacks.

"Obviously, the step we took in 1957 has not been followed by the necessary additional steps to ensure that all students have

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Civil rights pioneer Daisy Bates stands and waves to the crowd at Central High School in Little Rock, Ark., Thursday, Sept. 25. Looking on are, from left, Little Rock Nine members Terrence Roberts and Jefferson Thomas; Central principal Rudolph Howard; and Little Rock Nine members Minniejean Brown Trickey, Thelma Mothershed Wair and Cleodis Gatson.

Farrakhan Outlines Details of Atlanta Day of Atonement

By LATASHA J. BRADLEY
Special to the NNPA from the Chicago Defender

Nation of Islam leader Minister Louis Farrakhan has outlined the details of the observance of the Holy Day of Atonement/Day of Absences set for Oct. 16, the second anniversary of the Million Man March.

The day is to be observed with fasting from sunset Oct. 15 to sunset Oct. 16 and predawn family prayer and scripture readings Oct. 16.

"America is dying as we speak from an internal rot, due to a moral decline, into the abyss of decadence," Farrakhan said.

"When a nation's evil outweighs its good, God has always sent down a decree of judgment, and that judgment meant the termination of that society, that people or that nation," Farrakhan said.



(AP Photo/Hans Deryk)

Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan gestures while speaking at the Joseph Caleb Center in Miami Monday, Sept. 29. Farrakhan has been visiting cities across the U.S. to encourage black Americans to celebrate the Oct. 16 anniversary of the 1995 Million Man March.

"America is now in that unenviable position. But before he (God) brings the full weight of punishment on America, He asks that America be called to repentance, to atone."

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Congresswoman calls for investigation of Nigeria

Washington, D.C. — Rep. Maxine Waters demanded a full investigation and report by the State Department into the recent storming, by armed security forces serving dictator San Abacha, of a farewell party for U.S. Ambassador Walter Carrington that was held by human rights groups in Nigeria.

"This outrageous intrusion demands an immediate and public response," said Waters. "The unacceptable treatment of U.S. Ambassador Carrington at the hands of the Nigerian police is a direct affront to the people of the United States."

According to the State Department, the United States has filed a strong protest with Nigeria regarding this incident. However,

the incident raises questions about whether the current economic sanctions by the United States are enough to cause the Nigerian regime to stop human rights violations and work to create free and fair elections for full democracy in Nigeria.

"We should not be surprised that a government that callously tosses aside a democratic election and imprisons the elected president would violate and disrespect our U.S. ambassador," said Waters. "Our current sanctions are not working, and they treat them as a joke"

Waters has co-sponsored HR 1786 to increase economic sanctions, including freezing foreign assets, against the illegitimate government.



Father George Clements signed autographs after the banquet for members of the audience. Margaret Demilara; Shirley Porter; Guin White, director of WSSU's Upward Bound Program; and DeValdean Pann, volunteer foster parent for Host Homes, wanted autographs and photographs with the internationally known humanitarian.

Host Homes celebrates 10 years of service to families in the community

▲ Father George Clements, founder of One Church-One Child, guest speaker

By FELECIA P. MCMILLAN
Special to THE CHRONICLE

"Brothers and sisters, I really do feel like celebrating today," said Father George Clements during his keynote address. "We are celebrating 10 years of service by Host Homes ... an organization that deserves the title of altruism ... Host Homes has gotten involved in helping youth for all

the right reasons."

Founder of One Church-One Child, Clements became the first priest to adopt a child in 1981. More than 500 came out to support the Host Homes celebration and hear his message Thursday, Sept. 25, at the MC Benton Convention Center.

Clements commended the foster families of Host Homes for their willingness to assist youth in crisis for

reasons that have nothing to do with money. "There is no money, honey," Clements said as he sang the praises of Host Homes volunteers who open their homes to people ages 10-17 on a daily basis.

Clements said he adopted four sons, and he reminded the audience that priests the world over have lis-

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