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Letter from Ellett Lawrence to Friend

Ellett Lawrence

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ASSOCIATION OF CITIZENS' COUNCILS

OF MISSISSIPPI

STATES' RIGHTS

RACIAL INTEGRITY

GREENWOOD, MISSISSIPPI

STATE
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
AND OFFICERS
1962

HORACE HARNED, JR.
STARKVILLE

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MACON

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TUPELO

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COLUMBUS

DENNIS M. BAKER
BATESVILLE

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MERIGOLD

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SHAW

KENNETH WILLIAMS
CLARKSDALE

TOM P. BRADY
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ALBERT GARDNER
YAZOO CITY

LUCIEN GWIN
NATCHEZ

ELLIS W. WRIGHT
JACKSON

W. H. JOHNSON, JR.
DECATUR

JIM B. COLLIER
MERIDIAN

H. H. HARPOLE
PHILADELPHIA

STANLEY MATTHEWS
CANTON

H. L. RANKIN, JR.
COLUMBIA

C. G. CLARK
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JIM TRUE
GULFPORT

J. E. STOCKSTILL
PICAYUNE

R. P. PARISH
TREASURER
BANK OF GREENWOOD
GREENWOOD

ELLETT LAWRENCE
FINANCE CHAIRMAN
GREENWOOD

DAVE HAWKINS
CHAIRMAN
SPECIAL GIFTS COMMITTEE
INDIANOLA

ROBERT B. PATTERSON
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
GREENWOOD

W. J. SIMMONS
ADMINISTRATOR
JACKSON

Dear Friend:

The predictions of our "extremists" are beginning to come true. The shadow of integration and negro political domination now looms over Mississippi. Our prediction is that we are going to be harassed from every angle possible during the next several years.

This writer has been in this movement since its beginning in May of 1954, and it hurts me to have to say that entirely too many Mississippians, particularly those of wealth and position, have not joined in the battle. Their property and personal safety is at stake just as is ours. In some ways, they are going to be hit a great deal harder than the ordinary citizen when and if negro political domination comes about in Mississippi. They are the ones who will bear the biggest part of any 100%, 200%, or more, tax increase. We see it already happening just north of us.

If you, as an individual, have not contributed your time, ingenuity, and financial support, we now appeal to you to do your part in helping your local organization and also the state and south wide groups in this struggle for survival.

Your local council needs membership. It needs the "banded intelligence of a free community" on its executive committee in its regular meetings. Your state association desperately needs your financial support on a regular sustained basis.

Every white Mississippian has a stake in the outcome of this political assault now being made against us. We hope that you will do your part.

Sincerely,

Ellett Lawrence

Finance Chairman