

LAW OFFICES
MCGILL & MCGILL
CITIZENS INSURANCE BUILDING
60 WEST DUNAL STREET P. O. Box 702
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA

November 5, 1937

Due to Ocala, Fla.
11:15 P.M.
1,400 P.M.
23.25
5.75
29.00

14504

Teachers' Sal
File

Mr. Thurgood Marshall
Asst. Special Counsel NAACP
69 Fifth Avenue
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Marshall:

Again I am writing you in regards to the proposed suit to equalize the salaries of the Florida Public School Teachers.

I have been in conference several times with a committee of teachers in regards to the case and while they appear to be real anxious to get some court action going, they are unwilling to have their names connected with it in such a way that it will attract the attention of their several school boards. Most of them are afraid of losing their positions in the school system.

I have suggested to them as a possible way out of it, the idea of a Citizens' Committee, the members of which should have no connection with the public school system of the state. The school teachers who are willing to help financially could do so through such a committee without disclosing their names to the committee or anyone else in such a way that the information would get to the school boards. I am arranging a conference with the committee in furtherance of this idea and I will let you know their reaction immediately after the meeting.

I have carefully gone over copies of the petition presented to the Board of Education of Montgomery County, filed by you in the Circuit Court there. It occurs to me that you have worked out a splendid way of raising the issues in a proper proceedings we have in mind here. I am anxious, however, first of all to have the Florida people interested in their own affairs and the teachers here should take the lead in it even though it may not be publicly known. No petition has been filed before the local School Board of Brevard County or any other county in Florida, in support of our proposed legal action and will not be until we have decided definitely who the petitioner will be and what part, if any, the State Teachers' Association will take in the matter.

The Florida State Teachers' Association will meet in Ocala, Florida, on the 26-27, inst. The Program Committee has requested me to invite you to address the Convention on one of those days for the purpose of creating interest among the teachers themselves in this matter.

14504

Mr. Thurgood Marshall #2

November 5, 1937

I realize, as I know you do, that this suit is of great magnitude and thorough preparation should be made before we go into it. The question of the employment of local counsel is a serious one and I am unwilling to undertake to represent clients in a case like this, whom I know are able to pay, without satisfactory arrangements about fees and costs.

Let me have your reaction about some of these statements.

Very truly yours,

McGILL & McGILL

S. D. McGill

S. D. MCGILL

sdm/w