

NEWS

FOR RELEASE

THE STATE OF MICHIGAN
CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION

1000 CADILLAC SQUARE BUILDING, DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48226 • Ph 222-1722

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ASK FOR CONSTITUTIONAL GUARANTEES

Detroit, Michigan - July 28, 1967

The following telegram was sent today to the following: President Johnson, Governor Romney, Mayor Cavanagh, Commissioner Girardin, Presidential Assistant Vance, Lt. Gen. Throckmorton, Commissioner Frederick Davids, Atty. General Kelly, Judge Vincent Brennan Michigan Supreme Court, Prosecutor Wm. Cahalan, Wayne County Sheriff Peter Buback, Michigan Bar Association, Detroit Bar Association, Wolverine Bar Association, Michigan Department of Corrections, Washtenaw County Sheriff and Ernest Mazey, ACLU.

Because of many serious complaints being brought to our attention, the Michigan Civil Rights Commission urges your personal insistence that due process be instituted immediately for all persons held in our jails for charges related to the riots; that fair bond be set; that those held for minor offenses be released on personal bond; that every precaution be taken to prevent any action that may be regarded as police brutality or vindictiveness; that equal protection of the law be assured for all persons; that judges be sent to out-state locations where persons are being held, so that arraignments may be immediately instituted; that illegal search and seizures be stopped.

All of these assurances of fair and equal treatment are not only Constitutional guarantees but are vitally necessary to prevent the imminent outbreak of further civil disorders.

To this end the Commission requests authority to station staff observers in all police precincts and places of detention of prisoners.

Signed:

Damon J. Keith, Chairman
The Rev. Dr. A. A. Banks, Jr.
John Dempsey
George E. Gullen, Jr.
Father Theodore E. LaMarre
Kenneth W. Robinson
Sidney M. Shevitz
Mrs. Frank W. Wylie