—Federal suit

(Continued from Page 1)

The county allegedly violated the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the LEAA Act of 1968 and the Revenue Sharing Act of 1972 "by pursuing policies that discriminate against blacks and women."

Venetoulis, in a terse statement Thursday, called the suit "irrelevant" and questioned federal officials' motives in filing the suit.

He added some of the names in the suit are no longer in those positions.

"The federal government is about two and a half years behind the times," he said. "We've been working with the justice department for two years doing everything they've asked us to do precisely.

"We've hired a civil service commissioner to work with us to develop the changes that are necessary," he went on. "We've been working diligently and very fairly to develop an appropriate approach and suddenly I'm told because I haven't received official notification, that we are sued.

"I think it's a lot of nonsense and just simple bureaucratic fashion of the right hand not knowing what the left is doing."

According to the suit in mid 1976, Baltimore County had 4,618 employees, of whom 1,007 or 21.7 percent were women and 120 or 2.6 percent were blacks. There were 11 blacks and eight women holding jobs among the 1,418 police and fire department jobs.

The suit also charged that when blacks and women are hired they are "assigned to lower paying, lower opportunity jobs than white men, with blacks placed in service and maintenance jobs and women in office and clerical positions."

It further asks the court to issue preliminary and permanent injunctions forbidding county officials from engaging in the alleged discriminatory employment practices, and that the county be ordered to recruit, hire and promote more women and blacks and to adopt standards for the review of hiring and promotion decisions within each department of the county government.

The county executive took exception to the charges pointing out that the federal government contacted the county officials in February in connection with their affirmative action program.

"Sure, there is a problem in the county," Venetoulis said, "but we're working on it.

"The federal government wrote us in February that four things needed to be done in connection with the affirmative action program," he said. "We responded and said three of those things have been done."

The "things" according to Venetoulis included:

— A recruitment program of minorities and women.

— The first affirmative action program in the county's history with affirmative action coordinators in every department.

— Setting a goal of the number of minorities and women to hire in a given length of time.

Venetoulis added that the federal government is aware of these actions and a report of their progress is expected sometime in June.

Randolph B. Rosencrantz, the county administrative officer, agreed with Venetoulis stating: "It is hard to understand and illogical for the justice department to sue the county."

"One agency is helping us change the personnel laws while at the same time another is suing us."

A justice department spokesperson said the filing of the suit will automatically suspend funding from the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration to the county within 45 days unless the court orders LEAA to continue the assistance. The spokesperson said the department had not calculated the total of the funding.

"The suit further asks the court to order an affirmative action program that would include the hiring of blacks and women in sufficient number to overcome the effects of the alleged past discrimination and the compensation of victims of discrimination," the official said.

The official said the suit asks the court to issue preliminary and permanent injunctions also forbidding county officials from engaging in the alleged discriminatory employment practices.

Department officials further requested of the court that the county be required to recruit, hire and promote more women and blacks and to adopt standards for the review of hiring and promotion decisions within each department of the county government.

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—$2.5 million for Bay

(Continued from Page 1)

2. Registration for the temporarily revived school's late spring semester totals only 150 students.

(When the college hit the skids and decided to close, it reported an enrollment of 800 students. About 1,200 students were reported enrolled in the fall.)

Ralph Cannon, acting dean of the college, expects as many as 250 students for the term. The school is expected to open with a full day and evening schedule and a full faculty of about 25 persons.

The money plan to aid Bay submitted early last week by Michael Lorenzo, chairman of St. Martin's "Save Bay" committee, to Charles P. Howard Jr., the court appointed trustee of the school, proposes that the church group "guarantee" to recruit a total of 1,600 students during the next year: 600 within the next 30 days and 250 during the next 10 weeks thereafter for four straight terms.

Lorenzo contends that since each student represents an annual income of at least $1,800, "simple arithmetic of 1600 student times $1,800 tuition) equals $2,880,000 cash flow in addition to the approximately 800 students and $1 million cash flow now at Bay."

He however, pointed out there are several conditions attached to his committee's raising the $2.5 million.

First Sidney Kaplan, the board chairman, must step down as chairman but can remain a member.

—Dr. Frederick L. Nims Jr. must be offered the chance to become the college's president again.

—Mayor William Donald Schaefer must appoint a new board chairman.

—If Nims does not accept the post as Bay's president then Mayor Schaefer would also appoint the new president.

Lorenzo said St. Martin's Church has supported Bay College since Nims became its president a year ago and that many of the church's members are also students at Bay.

He also feels that under Dr. Nims, Bay was fulfilling a need to the Baltimore "inner city youth and adults." The church group requests that Nims return to the post is because he is "highly qualified;" "well known for his love for the city;" "his reputation was shattered unjustly" and that as president he "worked at least 80 to 100 hours per week in the interest of Bay College."

Lorenzo said further he has not talked to Dr. Nims, therefore he has no idea if Nims will take the post. He added he has also not talked to Mayor Schaefer about his role in the plan.

He did say though, that Schaefer should have a say in this matter and that because of his lack of communication Kaplan should "step aside."

Meanwhile, reports from school sources indicate that a race may be developing for the now vacant presidential post.

Sources state the race seems to be between Ralph Cannon, the present acting dean, Nims, who is backed by the "Save Bay" committee and a law instructor who served as acting president before Nims was appointed.

—Quiet rites

(Continued from Page 1)

Speaking to friends of the family, Rev. Scruggs said, "So often time we like to do a lot of telephone gossip. We say things we don't know about and we point our fingers at one another. None of us are perfect people. All of us make mistakes and we have to leave it in God's hands.

"We brought nothing in this world and it is certain we can take nothing out. The Lord giveth and the Lord taketh away."

Other ministers who participated in the brief last rites were the Reverends David Simon and Harvey Lybolt, of St. Andrews Episcopal Church, where the Sanders family attended.

Rev. Scruggs continued, "Hard days lie ahead for Mr. Sanders and Rodney and they need your help."

When Rev. Scruggs prayed for the bereaved family, he said, "Lord put your arms of protection around them not to have hate.

"Teach their friends not to be telephone gossipers. Teach us how to live and love one another."

Following his prayer, the three ministers knelt in front of the closed caskets and said a prayer. The deceased is buried in Westview Cemetery.

Mrs. Sanders, 35, fatally shot three of her children, wounded another and then killed herself on May 5 in their Northgate Road home.

Conference, May 15

The Childbirth Education Association of Baltimore, Inc. will be sponsoring an all day conference on "Childbearing and Today's Woman." The conference will be held on May 15 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Brown Memorial Presbyterian Church on Charles Street and Woodbrook Lane.

For further information call Mrs. Mary Maher at 426-7283 or Mrs. Marcia Hittinger at 828-4849.

ANNOUNCEMENT

N.A.A.C.P. MEMBERSHIP MEETING ON TUES., MAY 23, 1978-7:30 p.m.

Douglas Memorial Community Church
Madison & Lafayette Aves.
Special Items on Agenda
1. Election of Delegates to National Convention
2. Discussion of President Carter's Welfare Reform Proposals

N.A.A.C.P. Members are requested to bring identifying membership cards.
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$1.9 million for deficits.

Board of Estimates approves city's supplemental budget

Supplemental budget appropriations of $1.9 million for city government operations have been approved by the Board of Estimates.

The budget additions, needed to prevent deficits in eight city departments in the fiscal year ending June 30 was submitted to the board Wednesday.

Deficits are not permitted under the city charter.

George A. Piendak, chief of the city's budget bureau, said the supplemental requests were held in check by "prudent fiscal management" by department directors.

The additional money approved by the board must now be passed by the City Council.

The departments included on the projected deficit list, and the amounts needed are:

— City Council, $43,000, required to cover "additional services to the Council and to the public" for information copies of bills, correspondence and other printing.

— The Community College of Baltimore, $417,000 to cover additional cost of the employee retirement and for cost connected with the work study program.

— City Jail, $255,000 for costs of workman's compensation payments in excess of the amount budgeted.

— Sheriff's office, $70,000 to cover added costs of providing security at the Civil Courts building.

— State's attorney, $150,000 to cover increasing costs including jury trial demands.

— Supreme Bench, $165,000 for costs associated with attempts to cut its case backlog.

— Board of Estimates, $594,000 to cover improvement in the city's pension program, bringing the benefits in line with those of the Fire Department by paying for 50 percent of the health insurance for retirees under 65.

The Board also approved the use of $814,350 in additional federal funds by the Urban Services Agency in the emergency heating grant program.

City Council investigative committee hears charges against minority firm

One of the eight minority subcontractor firms that shared the award of a $25 million interstate highway contract last month has been accused of being a front for white owned companies before a City Council investigative committee this week.

As a result of these accusations, the City Solicitor Benjamin Brown and Interstate Chief William Hellman have been ordered to detail for the committee in writing what actions are being taken to insure proper minority hiring in the future.

The hearing was held by the Council judiciary committee Tuesday at the request of Councilpersons Victorine Adams and Michael Mitchell to focus on a Board of Estimates' award of a contract to Whiting - Turner Contracting Co. for construction of a segment of I-95 in south Baltimore.

Charges of being a minority front were lodged by the Maryland Minority Contractors against King Erectors, the principal minority subcontractor aligned with Whiting-Turner.

Minority contractor officials said that King is financed, controlled and directed by white owned G&H Steel.

"King has been denied minority status by the Mass Transit Administration here and the Massachusetts Bay Transit Authority in Boston," said Doug Sands, MMCA president.

"The advisory committee on minority participation to the Interstate Division also concluded that the firm was not a minority business," he said.

Mitchell called King Erectors "a sham company created to undermine the intent of the law."

Richard Trainor, former Interstate Divisions chief said the problem was with the definition of minority contractor that had been used for the Whiting Turner contract and several other contracts awarded earlier this year.

Councilman Frank Gallagher, chairman of the committee, then requested that Brown and Hellman make the report to the committee.

Hellman said his office has already begun to modify the manner in which proposed minority subcontractors were reviewed and approved.

Bones of Mr. X still not identified

HAGERSTOWN, Md. — The bones of Mr. X have not yet been identified.

State police said this week that after two months they have reached a deadend in their attempts to attach an identity to several bones found March 11 in a stream bed near the small community of Sand Hook, Md.

Sgt. Cecil Bittinger, spokesman for the state police, told the AFRO Tuesday that they are no closer to identifying the bones than they were in March or what the cause of death was.

"We don't have the thing," he said. "We did a hand and knee search of the area and haven't turned up a single additional bone."

Bittinger added the investigation is continuing and is being treated as a homicide.

The bones, which included a skull, both arms and both legs (minus the hands and feet), were found the weekend of March 11 in the stream bed near the Potomac River near the C&O Canal not far from Maryland Heights.

The skull found Saturday, March 11 by a man walking his dog. The arms and legs were discovered Monday, March 13 by a passerby not far from the site where the skull was discovered.

The Washington County Medical Examiner's office had determined that the person had been an average adult black male less than 30 years old from the clothes and human hair found in the area.

Washington County and Baltimore City medical examiners could not determine cause of death but said no foul play was indicated by the remains.

The clothes found included a maroon and grey polk-dot nylon shirt, size 15-15½; a pair of undershorts, size 32-34; a pair of blue nylon or rayon men's stockings; a pair of red and grey wool hiking socks; a pair of tan moccasins; a white sweater with a design that said "hands off" and a sash which may have been used as a belt.

No pants were found in the area.

The Baltimore city medical examiners later sent the bones to the anthropology department of the Smithsonian Institute. Smithsonian officials could offer no additional help except to say that the dental work belonged to a man who was either in the military or in the prison system.

Bittinger said the report stated the dental work was "well kept."

—Phantom

(Continued from Page 1)

According to police, the victims gave Rhodes money to rent the house after learning through a woman identified as Ms. Beverly Ambush that the house was available for rent.

The rental fees, according to police, ranged from as low as $175 to rent the house to $1,000 as a downpayment to buy.

Police said as each victim attempted to move in, it was discovered the house was already occupied and attempts to get their money back through Ms. Ambush proved useless.

Hite said Ms. Ambush has been questioned, but has not been charged.

He added that at least 18 persons claim to have been bilked by Rhodes but only seven filed complaints.

"If I can get the other 11 persons to file complaints and more angry reactions can be generated overwhat they did, I can go to Seattle to get him," he said.

He said at present he has no way to justify to the state's attorney's office spending money to travel to Seattle to bring Rhodes back.

Rhodes is presently a sales trainee for the Xerox Corp. in, Bellvue, Wash.

According to police he has been charged with two previous counts of false pretense, one in 1972 and another in 1976.

Rhodes, who called the AFRO last Thursday, has refused to comment on the case.

—Pale Preakness

(Continued from Page 1)

"Because we have a very small office it is impossible to go around," said Linda Watts, coordinator of Preakness Cultural Festival. "Our intention is to have everyone involved who wanted to be. Anyone who called is involved."

Ms. Watts faid that about 500,000 persons were expected for the various events, but could not say how many would be from Baltimore.

The Sixth Annual Preakness Festival Balloon Race (Across the Chesapeake) 8 a.m. Patterson Park on Saturday, May 13th. During the race, the only black balloonist in the country will be here to participate.

But the festival is filled with events such as the "Antique Fire Engine Muster," the Cylburn Wildflower Preserve Market Day," the "Pilgrimage Water Cruise," and "Dakota Country Western Singers."

The Preakness Cultural Festival Inc. said it is looking for any volunteers that may be willing to assist them. The telephone number is 837-1500.

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