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Ming Award Recipient 2005

Civil Rights Lawyer
919-381-0856
Life Member NAACP

December 6, 2022

Re: December 2, 2022 Suspension letter to my Client O' Linda Watkins

Ms. Janette McCarthy Wallace
General Counsel, NAACP
(louard@naacpnet.org) and Certified Return Receipt USPS Letter

Dear Ms. Wallace:

On behalf of my client, Ms. O' Linda Watkins, I request a public hearing as provided in the NAACP Constitution and By-Laws in a venue that accommodates disabled, elderly, and other life members and warriors of the NAACP interested in protecting NAACP employees from sex harassment and worse, the issue on which Ms. O' Linda Watkins chose to take her stand 5 years ago. The referenced Derrick Johnson letter ended with three paragraphs material to this request which I copy here for the convenience those copied on this hearing request, and particularly people in North Carolina who have a direct interest in Ms. Watkins' status and safety as she conducts her local and national civil rights duties. This letter incorporates the facts included in my letter responding to your client's 'cease and desist' letter. I include the directions from Mr. Johnson's letter four days ago for the benefit of those being copied with this Request for an Appeal Hearing.

Should you timely request a hearing regarding this matter, one will be provided as outlined in the NAACP Constitution and Bylaws for Units. Any such request for hearing – as well as any written response you would like to submit regarding the above allegations – must be sent within 15 calendar days from date of receipt of this letter and complaint. The 15-day period shall commence to run from the time service of the complaint is complete. Service of the complaint is deemed complete five (5) days after the complaint was mailed (Please correct this count if it is inaccurate—12/2 + 5 is 12/7 + 15 calendar days is 12/22/2022.) Your hearing request must be sent via certified mail to the attention of Carmen Watkins, Senior Vice President, Membership Growth and Unit Sustainability, NAACP, 4805 Mount Hope Drive, Baltimore, MD 21215.

Mr. Johnson's letter closed by telling Ms. Watkins again to '**cease and desist immediately**' from holding herself out as a member of the NAACP and then concluded by saying *if had any questions regarding the matter, she may contact Carmen Watkins, Senior Vice President, Membership Growth and Unit Sustainability, at cwatkins@naacpnet.org.*

For the record you called me this morning and said you heard my client was heard on tv talking about what the Moore County Sheriff believes could be a domestic terrorist attack that took place on 12/3/22. Perpetrator(s) shot into two Duke Power substations Saturday evening as a drag queen show opened in a Southern Pines theater, while protesters picketed outside. My client and other Moore County Branch members attended the show for enjoyment and an act of solidarity with our increasingly isolated, fearful LGBTQ sisters and brothers.

Ms. Watkins lives by the NAACP Mission Statement and takes seriously the duty of our branch members—particularly its leaders--to stand proudly in their communities to respect LGBTQ and NAACP women employees' right to a workplace free from harassment, stalking, and retaliation. Stirring up homophobia by racist/right extremists has proven to be an effective tactic in their playbook. Ms. Watkins' courageous stances have won her a wide following across Moore County and the region. She cannot help it when a reporter seeks truth from her. With hope this letter leads to better communication I remain,

Truly yours,

/s/

Alan McSurely,

Member of U.S. Supreme Court

C: O' Linda Watkins

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Carmen Watkins (cwatkin@naacpnet.org)