



**TALLAHASSEE BRANCH**  
**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE**  
Office Phone 224-0697      P.O. Box 5892      Tallahassee, Florida 32314  
*Dr. Charles Evans, President*

December 6, 2006

**Mr. Ed Depuy, Chairman**  
**Leon County Commission**  
N. Monroe St.  
Tallahassee, FL 32301

Dear Chairman Depuy:

Thanks for the opportunity to allow the Tallahassee NAACP to submit for the County's consideration a proposal that would provide for an opportunity to become a partner in an important community venture to establish a permanent home for the NAACP. The City of Tallahassee has already agreed to join the NAACP in this venture.

The NAACP home, in addition to serving as headquarters for the Tallahassee Branch of the NAACP, will also serve as a community meeting place and a museum for the Tallahassee Civil Rights Movement. The Civil Rights movement in Tallahassee has played such a crucial role in our nation, state, and Leon County in propelling us to the democracy that we enjoy today.

I have enclosed the proposal for the Leon County Commission requesting you be a partner/sponsor of the new NAACP home. If you have questions concerning the proposal, please call.

Home 878-2556, Office 412-7738, or Cell 443-2585

Sincerely,

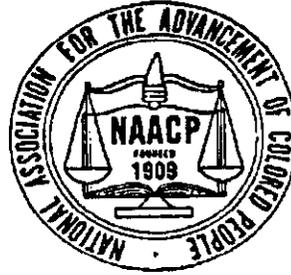
*Charles L. Evans*

Dr. Charles Evans, President

Cc: County Commissioners  
County Administrator

Enclosure

# TALLAHASSEE BRANCH NAACP



**Proposal to**

**LEON COUNTY COMMISSION**

**For Funding of**

**Relocating and Renovating  
Historic Franklin Building for NAACP Office**

**Dr. Charles Evans, President  
Tallahassee Branch NAACP**

**December 6, 2006**

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## **PROPOSAL**

### **Historic Building for NAACP Office**

#### **I. INTRODUCTION**

The Tallahassee Branch of the NAACP seeks \$40,000 from the Leon County Commission to partner/sponsor the **relocating/renovation** of the Historic Building donated by the Frenchtown CDC to the Tallahassee NAACP. The building is presently located at 611 N. Macomb Street in Tallahassee. The Department of Neighborhood and Community Services of the City of Tallahassee provided an economic development/historic preservation/public facilities grant of \$50,000 to be used in the relocation of the building at Macomb St. to City owned property at 719 W. Brevard St. The Tallahassee Branch of the NAACP has matched the commitment from the City with \$50,000 in up front cost to assist with the building relocation. The City of Tallahassee has subsequently provided \$22,000 to the Tallahassee NAACP to assist with the permitting and initial engineering/drafting work for site preparation.

**The Historic Building will provide the NAACP with a:**

##### **1. Permanent home for the Tallahassee Branch NAACP.**

Prior to the donation of this building, the Tallahassee NAACP has been housed in many temporary locations. The renovated building will provide offices for the Branch and the Youth and College Divisions. The building will provide sufficient space to house our 16 operating committees and different programs.

##### **2. NAACP Civil Rights Museum**

In 2004, the Tallahassee NAACP started identifying and awarding a civil rights medallion to the soldiers in the Civil Rights struggle. To date, we have awarded over 60 of these medallions to individuals that are presently living in the Tallahassee area. We are researching others in the struggle to provide a museum within the new NAACP home that can showcase these civil rights warriors.

##### **3. Community-meeting place**

The second floor of this historic building will house a community meeting room with over 2000 square feet of space. This room will be available to all civic, social and community groups that might need a place to meet to conduct business.

##### **4. Office space for the Florida State NAACP**

This office will be used by the Florida State NAACP when they are conducting business in Tallahassee, specifically, during the legislative sessions.

This building is expected to be moved in December 2006 and renovated over the next 12 months. The renovation will be implemented over the 2006-2007 period by a team of community volunteers with a wealth of experience and a track record of successful project management.

This initiative will build on our efforts in recent years to be a more holistic organization for the Tallahassee/Leon community. Our goal is the creation of a more supportive environment to the community by addressing educational, political, and health concerns affecting African American and low-income individuals.

*The benefits to the community and the NAACP would include the following:*

1 Leon County and Florida residents will be provided an opportunity to meet and learn more about the

struggles of the civil rights warriors.

- 2 More local residents will be given the opportunity to be recognized as Civil Rights Warriors.
- 3 The development of a permanent home for the NAACP.

***Benefits to the Leon County Commission will be:***

1. The opportunity to promote the historic building and the civil rights museum for visitors coming to our town
2. Advertisements in future fundraising activities denoting the Leon County Commission as a sponsor of the Historic NAACP Building
3. Prominent display of the Leon County Commission's Logo on our partner's **Wall of Fame**.

## **II. HISTORY OF THE FRANKLIN BUILDING (MODERN CLEANERS)**

Joseph Franklin was a member of one of the leading entrepreneurial families of Frenchtown. The family moved to Frenchtown from their farm in rural Leon County in the late 1920's. The mother Annie, sisters Lillie, Naomi, Hazel and Mary and brothers Benjamin and Franklin were very active in the commerce of the community. They established and operated a community store and service station in the Springfield community.

In 1947 Joseph Franklin constructed, owned and operated Modern Cleaners at 611 N. Macomb Street. This business was one of the mainstays of the Macomb Street commercial corridor well into the 1970's. The building was purchased and converted into a beauty salon, but never again achieved the economic importance to the community that was attained by Modern Cleaners. The Frenchtown CDC purchased the land and building in 2002 for inclusion in their Frenchtown Village Marketplace development. While it was not the intent of the CDC to utilize the building in the development, the Frenchtown CDC was vigilant in searching for opportunities to save historical structures during their revitalization efforts in Frenchtown.

The Tallahassee NAACP approached the Frenchtown CDC with a request that the historic building be donated to them so that it could be saved and used as their permanent office in Frenchtown. After this request, the Tallahassee NAACP approached the City of Tallahassee and requested that they partner with the NAACP in this undertaking. The estimate to relocate and reestablish the Modern Cleaners Building from its current location to city owned property at 719 West Brevard Street is \$100,000. The Tallahassee NAACP Committed to pay \$50,000 of that amount.

## **III. THE NAACP**

Since its inception the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) was poised for a long, tumultuous and rewarding history. Although it may be possible to chronicle the challenging and harrowing legacy of the NAACP, the real story of the nation's most significant civil rights organization lies in the hearts and minds of the people who would not stand still while the rights of some of America's darker citizens were denied.

From the ballot box to the classroom, the dedicated workers, organizers, and leaders who forged this great organization and maintain its status as a champion of social justice, fought long and hard to ensure that the voices of African Americans would be heard. The legacy of those pioneers such as W.E.B DuBois, Thurgood Marshall and Roy Wilkins and the hundreds of thousands of nameless faces who worked tirelessly can not and must not be forgotten.

The **NAACP mission** insures the political, educational, social and economic equality of minority groups and citizens; achieves equality of rights and eliminates race prejudice among the citizens of the United States;

removes all barriers of racial discrimination through the democratic processes; seeks to enact and enforce federal, state, and local laws securing civil rights; informs the public of the adverse effects of racial discrimination and seeks its elimination; educates persons as to their constitutional rights and to take all lawful action in furtherance of these principles.

**History of the NAACP**

The NAACP, founded in New York in 1909 and headquartered in Baltimore, Maryland is a 501(c) 3 entity comprised of seven regions representing 49 states, 5 countries and the District of Columbia. The Florida State NAACP Office has the responsibility for providing guidance to NAACP branches, chapters, and council offices throughout the state, by supporting them in their efforts to carry out the initiatives of the Association at the grassroots level.

Although, one could write great prose about the triumphs of the NAACP, there is nothing more powerful than the facts of how the existence of the oldest civil rights organization has changed the face of history for this country. And despite threats of violence, the NAACP continued and will continue to persevere.

The primary focus of the NAACP continues to be the protection and enhancement of the civil rights of African Americans and other minorities. Branch and Field Services is in charge of providing the branches with all relevant information, investigating problem situations, making recommendations to the Board of Directors and providing a variety of support services. The NAACP believes strongly that future leaders must be developed today, and such development is ongoing in the Youth and College Division.

**IV. THE EVALUATION PLAN**

We will conduct an end of year evaluation of the renovation of the building identifying funds received from donors and in-kind contributions. Of particular interest would be the critical success factors identified by the Tallahassee Branch NAACP which will include the development and implementation of the Civil Rights Museum, the establishment of Office space and meeting rooms, and the use of the designated spaces and programs.

**V. THE BUDGET AND "WISH LIST"**

The table below summarizes the budget highlights. The Tallahassee Branch NAACP is requesting \$40,000 from the Leon County Commission. The funds requested will be used primarily to provide direct moving, site preparation and renovation related expenses for the Historic NAACP Building. The NAACP provided upfront money of \$50,000 to assist in the relocation of the building. In the request, we have also budgeted for work that has been completed to prepare the building for relocation such as permitting, engineering work, and land preparation.

We will also be seeking donations of services and supplies to renovate and to enhance the Franklin building. We will be developing a "wish list" of items from our community partners such as:

Doors (Interior & Exterior)	Windows	Lighting fixtures
Wall & Ceiling insulation	Drywall	Interior Trim & casings
Kitchen & Bath Cabinets	Kitchen & Bath Sinks	Ceramic Tile
Toilets	Counter Tops	Exhaust fans
Paint (Interior & Exterior)	Ceiling fans	Shelving
Kitchen Appliances	Office furniture	Floor – carpet & tile
Lumber	Plumbing material & labor	Plumbing fixtures & trim
Electric material & labor	Irrigation Landscaping	Plant, Shrubs & Sod

### Preliminary Budget

	Expected Cost	Expected Completion	Financial Status
Phase I			
Permitting	\$5,200.00	Complete	Paid by City donation
Engineer Designs	15,000.00	Complete	Paid by City donation
Land Preparation			
Stump Removal - Macomb St.	9,500.00	Complete	To be paid by City/NAACP
Tree Removal - Brevard Street			In Stump removal Cost
Lot Preparation - Brevard Street	2,000.00	12/2/06	To be paid by City
Foundation for Building		12/02/2007	Paid by Mover
Phase II			
Moving of Building	99,000.00	12/19/2006	\$49,650 pd by NAACP \$49,350 to be paid by City
Holding Pond	20,000.00	1/20/2007	Assistance from County
Architectural Designs	10,000.00	2/20/2007	Assistance from County
Site Preparation	25,000.00	3/30/2007	Assistance from County
Phase III			
Renovation	\$200,000.00	1/1/2008	To raise
	<b>TOTAL PROJECTED COST</b>		
	<b>\$385,700.00</b>		
	<b>TOTAL RECEIVED /EXPENSED</b>		
	<b>\$105,000.00</b>		
	<b>PROJECTED EXPENSES</b>		
	<b>\$280,700.00</b>		

The City has donated \$50,000 to assist in the moving of the building and an additional \$22,000 to help in the permitting and site preparation.

#### VI. CONCLUSION

Overall, the future of the Historic NAACP building is bright. Support from the Leon County Commission will continue to help enhance our neighborhoods and support more grassroots organizations as partners in the achievement of our community goals.