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Special report: The blatant racism inside U.S. Marshals Service



**BIGGOTS
WITH
BADGES**

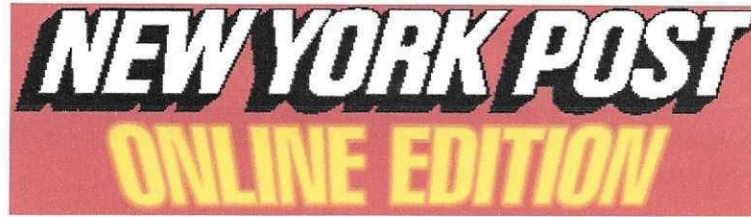
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Marshal Racists Spark Suits

Minorities: Discrimination rampant among fed cops

By William Sherman and Daniel GoldFarb

New York Post, Sunday, March 16, 1997

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The U.S. Marshals Service is riddled with blatant, sometimes violent racism in its offices in New York and throughout the country, a Post investigation has found.

The service's biased hiring and promotion practices seem to be fueling the open bigotry.

Statistics reveal that 264 of the 292 deputy marshals hired last year were white. They are working for a 3,987 member work force that is 79% white.

In a series of interviews, black and white deputy marshals providing chilling details of incident after incident of on-the-job discrimination they've either faced or witnessed.

Their accounts of bias at work included:

- o White deputies setting up black deputies for beatings by prison inmates.
- o White deputies failing to provide backup for black deputies making dangerous arrests.
- o White deputies using Martin Luther King's picture for target practice during an annual firearms qualification test.
- o A white deputy terrorizing black female deputies by running through the marshal's office dressed as a member of the Ku Klux Klan.
- o Having defaced and obscene autopsy photos of a 7 year old black murder victim placed on the desks of two deputies who were partners -- one white, the other black.

The white deputy, who is assigned to the service's Manhattan office, said he has been ostracized at work as a "nigger lover" and was beaten by a white colleague for supporting his black partner's discrimination complaints.

Examples of systemic bias and glaring acts of discrimination are included in a series of equal-opportunity complaints and federal suits filed in the last few years.

Most include allegations that those who file complaints suffer immediate retaliation.

In one pending suit, Ruth Worsely, a supervisory deputy marshal in New Jersey, charges she was assigned "to perform primarily secretarial and administrative duties" because she is black -- despite her high-ranking position.

Worsely, who joined the service in 1979 and worked her way up through the ranks, says he has been continually humiliated on the job.

She says she has been forced to use the same restroom as male deputies, has been excluded from supervisory staff meetings, and has been prevented from using the official car assigned to her.

The most shocking complaint in her suit was an account of the day a white deputy appeared in the Newark office in a white sheet and menaced a number of black female employees.

One of those terrorized by the hateful KKK-like display was Joan Cobbs, a 55-year-old seizure and forfeiture specialist. She was so upset and intimidated that she quit the service.

The white deputy was not disciplined. Instead, he was transferred to his home state of Ohio - as he had requested.

I'm going to win this lawsuit and get my rights", said Worsley, 54. She said she has no intention of quitting her job.

Arthur Lloyd, a black deputy marshal who works in Washington, D.C. , claims he's been the target of life-threatening racism. Lloyd said white deputies took immediate revenge on him after he filed a discrimination complaint contending he had been denied a promotion due him. "I was in a cellblock taking handcuffs off of prisoners who were ringleaders in a prison riot when a white supervisor locked me in the cell," he said. "All the white deputies had left and I came very close to getting killed. They locked me in there for 30 minutes and the only reason I got out was because they had to bring in the prisoners' lunch wagon and unlocked the door."

Another black deputy marshal, Matthew Fogg, described how his white colleagues on the fugitive task force left him to fend for himself while he was making a particularly dangerous arrest. "This guy, a major drug dealer, Michael Lucas, was doing 20-to-life for murder and he escaped from prison in Texas," said Fogg, who has helped nab more than 270 fugitives since joining the service in 1978. "Lucas was one of the top 15 fugitives in the country, and we tracked him down. He pulled a gun on me, but I wrestled him down. The white deputies knew when the bust was coming, but in the end, where were they? They left their posts."

In 1991, Fogg won the service's highest honor, the Director's Honorary Award, for his leadership on the task force.

In a discrimination complaint, Fogg alleges that he's suffered "substantial racial bias." He states he has been denied promotions, and after he complained, was assigned to a "dead-end" desk job. "They forced me out of the service," said Fogg, who claims that superiors threatened him with further retaliation if he didn't drop his complaint.

"The stress got too much for me and I filed a Workers' Compensation Board claim -- 'stress-related disorder caused by discrimination and retaliation in the workplace.'" The board upheld Fogg's claim.

After some time passed, his superiors forced Fogg back to work. When he and his physician said he was not ready, he was dismissed from the service for insubordination -- despite the workers' comp ruling.

Fogg's discrimination suit against the service -- in which he seeks more than \$1 million in damages -- is scheduled to go to trial in Federal court in Washington in May. Fogg said he is also organizing a minority class-action suit against the service.

Another black marshal, Vincent Johnson, claims his troubles as a deputy began because he was doing so well. "I was one of three blacks from around the country picked to attend Special Operations Group School, that's the Marshal's equivalent of a SWAT team. There were 40 whites in my class," said Johnson. He claimed the white instructors "constantly ridiculed" the blacks and drummed the two other blacks out of the school. "I wasn't fazed because I was a paratrooper with the 82nd Airborne Division, honorably discharged, but when I complained about the other blacks in the class getting kicked out for no reason, the next day I was thrown out." It was four days before graduation, from the eight-week school, said Johnson.

He added that when he returned to headquarters, "they trumped up some stuff about my original application to the service and fired me. I couldn't understand it. All my test scores were in the top 5 percent."

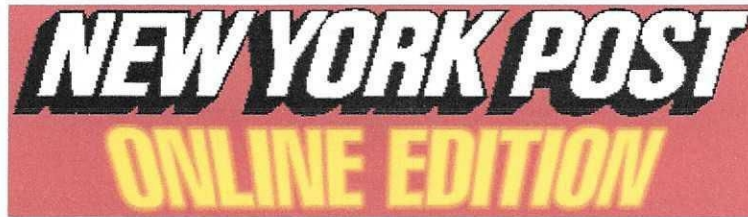
That was nine years ago. Johnson's discrimination complaint has still not be resolved. After he left the service, he joined the State Department's diplomatic security corps, and is now a special agent for the Pennsylvania attorney general, specializing in narcotics investigations.

William Dempsey, a service spokesman, refused to comment on any of these cases. He said the agency does not comment on individual employee complaints or lawsuits. But he noted that since Eduardo Gonzalez was appointed head of the service by President Clinton in 1993, the number of discrimination and sexual-harassment complaints filed by agency employees has dropped from 125 to 66.

Dempsey added that the service is taking other steps to alleviate various imbalances in the system. But at the same time, said Dempsey, "The service is not acknowledging that any mistakes were made."

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LIFE UNDER MARSHAL LAW

Partners describe more racist hell rides with the U.S. Service

Yesterday, the Post reported that the U.S. Marshals Service is riddled with blatant, sometimes violent racism in its offices in New York and throughout the country -- a problem apparently fueled by biased hiring practices. In today's installment, The Post reveals the experiences of two partners -- one black, one white -- in the agency's Manhattan office.

By William Sherman and Daniel Goldfarb

Monday, March 17, 1997

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For Bill Scott, who is black, and Steve Zanowic, who is white, working as partners in the U.S. Marshals office in Manhattan was a racist hell. The two men, as deputy marshals in the warrant squad, were frequent partners in hunting down dangerous fugitives, killers, drug dealers and escaped prisoners. From the day they met in 1988, they said, they were caught in a terrifying spiral of discrimination. There were death threats and physical violence -- including a crippling beating for Zanowic by a white supervisor and a setup by white deputies that almost resulted in Scott's murder.

A spokesman for the Marshals Service said the agency will not comment on their claims -- or on other individual cases. And Martin Burke, the area's U.S. Marshal said he was not familiar with their charges because he had only recently joined the Marshals Service.

But Scott, 57, and Zanowic, 42, have records documenting their experiences. Both have filed discrimination complaints. Racial epithets, they said, were routine. When Scott wasn't around, Zanowic said, whites in the office referred to Scott as "that shiftless nigger" and "coon". "I was amazed. I mean, didn't they know who Bill Scott is?" Zanowic asked.

Scott joined the service in 1970 after winning citations and an honorable discharge from the Marines. In the years that followed, he racked up hundreds of arrests and dozens of commendations. And in 1991, he was voted Law Enforcement Officer of the Year by the American Police Hall of Fame, the first black person to win that honor. But over the years, Scott also had filed Equal Employment Opportunity complaints claiming discrimination in assignments and his rate of promotion. In fact, Scott's superiors tried to stop him from getting the Hall of Fame award, according to Gerald Arenberg, former executive director of that organization.

"I got a call from Scott's boss, and he told me he had much better candidates for the prize, not to give it to Scott, and why hadn't we cleared the award with the Service and the Justice Department," Arenberg said. "We gave Scott the prize anyway, in part because he was stabbed several times while bringing in some prisoners in a car and he didn't lose them."

Zanowic recalled that after Scott received the award and filed his discrimination complaint, white deputies accelerated their racist campaign. Both he and Scott said they found pictures of rats on their desk and had their lockers broken into. Scott's unlisted number was given to criminals who called him with death threats.

"When I started working with him and became his friend, they started calling me a 'nigger lover' and 'Bill Scott's half-breed son,'" said Zanowic. Then a supervisor told me my career would advance only if I disassociated myself from Scott and got in with the white guys. You know, "Get with the Program".

Zanowic said one day "Scott was walking down the stairs, and two white deputies behind him pulled their weapons and said they would 'take the nigger out'".

Shortly after Scott reported the incident to a superior, a white deputy stuck a gun in his chest and said, "Pow, pow, you're dead," Zanowic said.

On another occasion, Zanowic said he took what he described as "a direct hit" after he filed his own complaint about discrimination and the retaliation he had suffered for supporting Scott's allegations.

At a baton training session in a vacant courtroom at 40 Foley Square, he said, a supervising training officer slammed him in the groin while demonstrating how to use the weapon. "I went unconscious", recalled Zanowic, who said he was left lying on the courtroom floor for four hours until he was able to pick himself up and go to the hospital. "I was out of work for five months and then returned to light duty," he said.

Scott and Zanowic said they also experienced and witnessed racism when they were on assignment together.

At a July 1992 weapons qualification exercise at an upstate Army base, both said they saw white marshals use Martin Luther King's picture for target practice. And, they said, when they made arrests, their superior tried to take the credit away from them. An 8 year-old black girl from The Bronx whose body had been found wedged into a crevice in the sea wall under the Triborough Bridge. Their boss insisted that they give credit for the arrest to another white deputy.

"We refused to put down the white deputy's name," Scott said. A few days later, Scott and Zanowic found nude and defaced autopsy pictures of Shemika on their desks along with racial epithets. There were obscene racist cartoons placed on their desks as well, and a defaced photo of Zanowic's wife.

A few months later, Scott said, he was set up by white deputies to face the bullets of an armed fugitive. "I was leading the stakeout team to pick up this guy, Brian Flowers, a fugitive wanted for drug and weapons dealing. We tracked Flowers down to his girlfriend's house in Brooklyn," said Scott. "We had radios, and all of a sudden, I see Flowers walking toward me across the street, and I called out the code on the radio, 'Green Light! Green Light!' but my backup team somehow disappeared. Nobody came."

Scott said he pulled out his badge and gun as Flowers continued toward him, and announced, "U.S. marshals, you're under arrest." "Flowers pulled out his gun and fired a shot at me. I ducked behind a car and fired back. Where was my backup, three other deputies? Nowhere," Scott continued.

"Flowers was running down the street. I chased him. He fired another shot at me. I kept running after him into a building. Still, nobody was there from my backup." It was 20 minutes before the members of his backup team

appeared and 10 minutes more before Flowers was found hiding in the basement, said Scott.

The result was not a commendation for Scott nor an investigation into whether the whites on his backup team had deliberately abandoned him. Instead, he was brought up on charges of recklessly firing his gung without justification. But Scott's bosses offered him a deal.

According to Scott and a written agreement drawn up by Gary Meade, then the personnel director of the Service, if Scott agreed to drop his discrimination complaint he would be assigned to drug-enforcement duty in Manhattan. But if he kept pressing his complaint, he would be demoted from deputy marshal/senior criminal investigator.

The demotion from the supervisory post would mean a \$10,000 a year pay cut. Scott refused to sign the agreement. He took the demotion and pay cut and was about to be transferred to Buffalo when he decied to retire after 25 years with the Service.

The EEOC judge who heard Scott's discrimination case ruled in his favor, finding that the retired deputy "was subjected to a hostile work environment on the Warrant Squad due to his race...."

Marshal Service lawyers are appealing the decision.

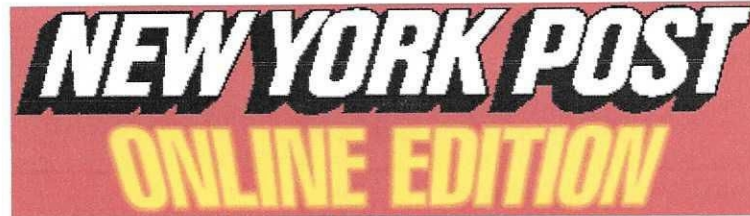
Scott is also taking his case to federal court, where he is seeking compensatory damages and court-ordered changes in the hiring and promotion practices of the Marshals Srvices.

"I'm a patient man," Scott said. "I served with the Marshals for 25 years. I can wait."

Zanowic is still working as a deputy marshal in New York. "What I do is basically ... escorting prisoners in cell blocks and to court, nothing that would advance my career. No more assignment to the Fugitive Squad", said Zanowic, a nine-year veteran.



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D'Amato wants probe of 'racist' marshals

By William Sherman and Daniel Goldfarb

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Sen. Alfonse D'Amato yesterday called for an investigation of allegations of racism and discrimination in hiring practices by the U.S. Marshals Services. "The allegations should be taken serious," D'Amato said, referring to a Post expose of bigotry in the service.

The Post reported that some white deputies used Martin Luther King's picture for target practice, and said white deputies set up black deputies for beatings by prison inmates.

Mayoral candidate Rev. Al Sharpton also called for a probe, saying he was "outraged" by the allegations.

The Marshals Service yesterday denied there is "blatant racism inside" the agency. A spokesman said privacy laws bar the agency from discussing specifics of discrimination cases.

Employment figures show that of 2,141 deputy marshals and supervisors, 84 percent are white, while 15.2 are black, Hispanic, Asian or Native American.

A spokesman for the Service said the agency has not met established Equal Employment Opportunity Commission guidelines for both minorities and women, is striving to meet those guidelines, and "does not and will not tolerate discrimination against anyone."

MOYNIHAN JOINS PUSH FOR PROBE OF MARSHALS 'BIAS'

By William Sherman

NY Post March 20, 1997

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U.S. Sen. Daniel P. Moynihan yesterday joined a growing chorus calling for a full investigation into allegations of "wide-spread discrimination and racism in the U.S. Marshals Service.

"I find the allegations very disturbing", Moynihan said, referring to a Post probe of bigotry in the service which found, among other things, that some white deputy marshals allegedly used Martin Luther King's picture for on-duty target practice.

The Marshals Service has denied charges of racism inside the agency and a spokesman said privacy laws bar discussion of specific discrimination cases detailed by The Post.

Employment figures show that of 2,141 deputy marshals and supervisors, 85 percent are white, while 15.2 percent are black, Hispanic, Asian or Native American.

Reflecting on those figures, Tony Bullock, Sen. Moynihan's chief of staff, said: Obviously we need active outreach programs to get more minority recruits and turn those statistics around, but you can't do it overnight."

Moynihan's demand for a probe follows similar calls from U.S. Sen. Alfonse D'Amato and activist Rev. Al Sharpton.

Meanwhile, a flood of calls from Marshal Service employees to The Post continued with new allegations and reports including:

- A finding by Eric Holder, U.S. attorney for the District of Columbia, that six deputy U.S. Marshals attended a massive June 1995 federal law-enforcement gathering that featured signs saying "Nigger Check Point." It also included the sale of "Coon Hunting Licenses", and a skit featuring a black doll pulled out of a watermelon that one cop smashed repeatedly with a baton. The all-white gathering, which attracted more than 1,400 people, is called "The Good Old Boys Roundup". It is held annually at a southeastern Tennessee campground.
- That the agency routinely retaliates against black deputies who file discrimination complaints with demotions, transfers, and menial assignments designed to abruptly stop career advancement.
- That the service discriminates against females in general -- white and minority -- in its hiring practices. Of 2,141 deputy marshals, 256 (11.96 percent) are female.

A spokesman for the service said the agency has failed to meet established Equal Employment Opportunity Commission guidelines for women and minorities. He added that the agency is striving to meet those guidelines and "does not and will not tolerate discrimination against anyone."

The 4,172 person agency is in charge of capturing federal fugitives, security at federal courthouses and the Witness Protection Program.



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D.C. Men Tell Horror Stories

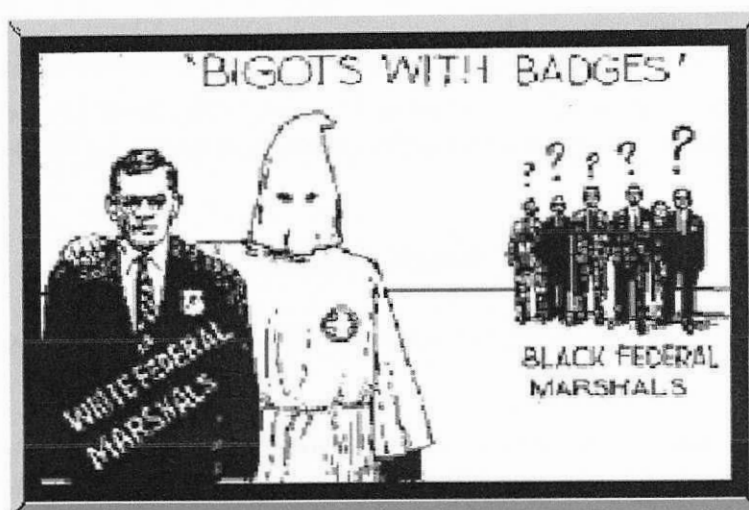
By James Wright

Washington African-American Newspaper

and the Washington Tribune

March 29, 1997

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The U.S. Marshals Service is rampant with discrimination against minority marshals and there is little that is done to discourage the bad behavior, according to the New York Post series, "BIGOTS WITH BADGES" which was published in four consecutive editions from Sunday March 16 to Wednesday, March 19.

The stories were written by William Sherman and Daniel Goldfarb.

The Marshall Service is the oldest federal police force in the country, founded in 1789, and its duties include witness protection, making felony arrest in federal crimes; transporting fugitives of the law from other states; managing the Asset Forfeiture Program; and carrying out federal orders from the President, such as riot control.

Put In Cellblock

Art Lloyd, a U.S. Marshal who works in the federal courthouse in Washington, D.C., revealed in the story how he was locked up with prisoners. He said that his White coworkers were upset about the discrimination complaint filed by him.

"I was in a cellblock taking handcuffs off of prisoners who were ringleaders in a prison riot when a White supervisor locked me in the cell," Mr. Lloyd said.

"All the White deputies had left, and I came very close to getting killed. They locked me in there for 30 minutes and the only reason I got out was because they had to bring in the prisoner's lunch wagon and unlocked the door," he said.

The New York Post story cited other examples of such behavior as:

- White deputies setting up Black deputies for beatings by prison inmates;
- White deputies failing to provide backup for Black deputies making dangerous arrests;
- White deputies using Martin Luther King's picture for target practice during an annual firearms qualification test;
- A White deputy terrorizing Black female deputies by running through a marshal's office dressed as a member of the Ku Klux Klan.

One of the newspapers chief sources, Matthew Fogg, who has been in the Marshal's office here in D.C. since 1983, told the AFRO in an interview on March 26, that he was discriminated against at various times for promotions and will take his case to federal court. The court date is Monday, May 19 and he will be represented, free of charge, by a local law firm, Zuckert, Scout and Rasenburger.

Mr. Fogg said he tried to contact the Rev. Jesse Jackson and his son Cong. Jesse Jackson Jr. (D-Ill) and many members of the Congressional Black Caucus with no luck. Attempts to reach the White House through the Internet were to no avail, either.

Death Threats

The New York Post article stated that 264 of the 292 marshals hired last year were White and the workforce is 79 percent white.

On Monday, March 17, the newspaper ran the story of Bill Scott, who is Black and his former partner, Steve Zanowic. Mr. Scott, though he received many awards for his work, was regularly called "N----" and coon, in the presence of Mr. Zanowic. When Mr. Zanowic made it clear that he stood by his partner, he was called a "N----r lover" and a "half breed son".

Death threats, pictures of dead rats, and racially insulting messages were commonplace. Mr. Zanowic said in the article that he was hit in the groin at a battalion training session by an instructor who was demonstrating the use of a weapon. He was left unattended and wobbled to the hospital.

The newspaper told a story of how Mr. Scott was set up to be killed by a crazed drug lord. When calling for backup, the White agents disappeared. He eventually captured the man but instead of being praised, he was reprimanded.

The series quoted Clevand Vaughn, a former U.S. Marshal from Nebraska who was appointed by President Clinton in 1993, but resigned in 1996. Mr. Vaughn was quoted as saying that hiring Black marshals was a challenge and frustrating because of the White male, "good ole boys' system.

U.S. Marshals spokesperson, William Dempsey, was quoted as saying that "the service is taking steps to alleviate imbalances in the system," but will not acknowledge that mistakes were being made.

William Sherman of the New York Post, one of the investigative reporters, told the AFRO on Wednesday that the

Rev. Al Sharpton has petitioned for a formal investigation in U.S. District Court. Also calling for an investigation are Sen. Daniel P. Moynihan (D-NY) and Sen. Alfonse D'Amato (R-NY).

Mr. Sherman has also said that he has received calls from workers in the U.S. Park Service and the New York Transit Authority.



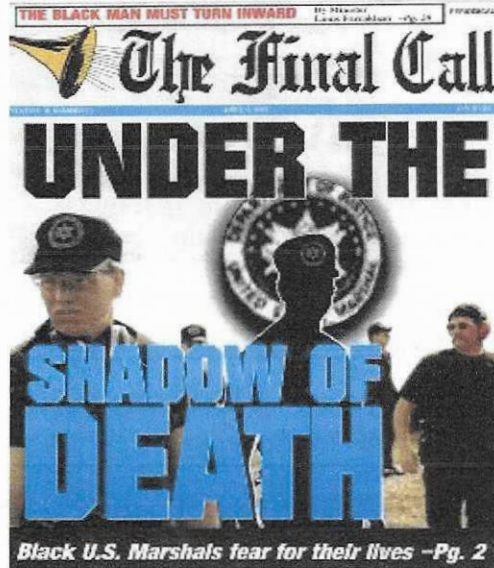
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Continuous update of illegal incidents

'Marshal Law?'



Blatant racism and hatred runs rampant in the U.S. Marshal Service, Black agents charge

by Tyrone Muhammad
Staff Writer



WASHINGTON--White U.S. Marshals joked about killing Black leaders, including the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan and New York activist Rev. Al Sharpton, according to a marshal who is spearheading a class action law suit charging the agency with blatant racism and discrimination.

According to the suit filed by Matthew Fogg, a Black U.S. Marshal, Blacks have been denied agency promotions, are not seriously recruited and suffer stiffer disciplinary actions than whites.

The agents contend their treatment may be the worst in the federal government. Discrimination reaches up to the highest level of management at the federal law enforcement agency, they charge.

Some of the allegations are so shocking they've grabbed the attention of senators, one of whom wants a congressional investigation.

"I believe its a clear pattern of widespread discrimination that is against African Americans," Mr. Fogg explained, in an interview with *The Final Call*.

"Back in 1978, when I came on board, they were making a so-called conservative effort to bring in minorities. I think there were seven Blacks in my class. Today, every one of the African Americans in that class have in some way been rooted out of the Marshal Service."

Black marshals have complained of everything from being denied promotions to being purposely left in life-threatening situations by white co-workers.

According to Mr. Fogg, in 1996, only 12 of 264 deputies hired were Black. Also according to a U.S. Marshals document, none of 21 officers recently promoted at the Marshal Service were Black, just two were Hispanic.

According to Black officers, once at a U.S. Marshal office in New Jersey, a white marshal put on a sheet and paraded around the office while harassing Black female employees. One Black female was so frightened she resigned, the officers said.

Starr Pickett, whose resume includes the U.S. Marines, the Department of Defense police, and a stint with the U.S. Bureau of Prisons, worked for the Marshal Service for 22 years. Mr. Pickett was forced to resign in 1992. Whites in powerful positions made it clear they "didn't want Blacks," he said.

Mr. Pickett said white superiors tried to discredit him, and once, a superior "assaulted" him. The superior was upset because as a union president Mr. Pickett assisted a Black marshal with a legal case against the agency.

"If I had hit a white man I'd be sitting in Leavenworth," Mr. Pickett said. Blacks are even given the worse cars to

carry out their duties, Mr. Pickett noted.

Blacks never got promotions unless they "hung out" with whites and spied on fellow Blacks, he charged. Mr. Pickett now works as a private detective but has a discrimination complaint pending against the agency.

Ruth Worsley, a Black woman, works as a supervisory deputy marshal in New Jersey and knows the discrimination at the Marshal Service all too well. Ms. Worsley said she has been purposely left out of top level staff meetings and was among Black women in the room as a marshal paraded around in a sheet.

She has filed a discrimination lawsuit against the agency and is one of the 40 Black marshals included in the class action lawsuit.

Last year, 240 Black agents of the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) won a multi-million dollar lawsuit against the ATF for similar racial discrimination. Similar suits have been settled with Black FBI and Secret Service agents.

Even friendly white marshals were targeted by racists, Black agents charged. A white deputy in the agency's New York office was advised in writing by whites to stay away from Black marshals. When he began to complain, he too was harassed.

During a meeting with the Marshal Director in Washington, the white officer said Blacks and other minorities were often referred to as "coons, n----r's, and spics," said Mr. Fogg.

The white officer also said he was called a "n----r lover," and often heard other white marshals boast of "going coon hunting tonight," meaning they were out to arrest Blacks. One white marshal, on a shooting range, used a photograph of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., as a target, Black agents said.

But the problem is deeper than pranks and promotions. Agent Fogg said he once told white officers under his charge to stake out a dangerous fugitive in Baltimore for an arrest. When the operation went down, Agent Fogg discovered the men had ignored his orders.

"I'm in Baltimore wrestling a fugitive with gun and they're in Washington" complaining about the assignment, Agent Fogg said.

The security breach was dangerous, other agents who joined the operation, but were unfamiliar with the case, could have been injured, he explained. The lax agents were not disciplined and one was later promoted, Mr. Fogg said.

"The international, universal description of a criminal has become a Black male aged 12-30," said Ron Hampton, executive director of the 30,000-member National Black Police Association.

According to Mr. Hampton, white control of the Marshal Service means they dictate anti-crime strategies and task forces. So in the inner city jumping out on children and "abuse of Black people" continues, he said.

Whites are just as involved in drugs as Blacks snatched up off street corners, Mr. Hampton noted. "It's just that whites don't sell drugs on the street, they sell drugs in their homes and on Wall Street. Well, the U.S. Marshal Service is not going to be busting in on Wall Street," he said.

Black marshals have sought help from Black leaders, congressional members and civil rights organizations as well as Congress and Justice Department, which has authority over the Marshal Service. New York Senator Alphonse D'Amato (R) has called for a federal probe of the charges.

A spokesperson for Congressional Black Caucus Chairwoman Maxine Waters (D-Calif.) said the lawmaker was unfamiliar with the complaints, but her office would look into the allegations.

Agent Fogg said the Justice Department may be part of the problem. When he presented his complaints to the

department, it took seven years for an investigation to be completed, although, he insists, a federal statute says such probes should be completed in 180 days.

A spokesperson at the Justice Department could not confirm or deny how much time is required for such investigations.

Bill Dempsey, spokesman for the U.S. Marshal Service, said allegations of racism at the Marshal Service "are being blown out of proportion. We are not a racist organization." Minorities are 21 percent of the agency's workforce, Mr. Dempsey said.

The Marshal's Service is 79 percent white, according to agency statistics. Just under 12 percent of employees are Black.

Mr. Dempsey nor the Justice Department would discuss the discrimination cases because of ongoing litigation. Agent Fogg's civil case will be heard in a D.C. federal court in May.

Racism at federal law enforcement agencies is nothing new, according Gilbert Branch, asst. executive director of the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE). The Washington-based group advocates on behalf of high-ranking Black law enforcement officers.

Part of the problem is the fact that neither a Black nor any person of color has ever headed the U.S. Marshal Service, FBI, CIA or Secret Service, he said.

Racism is allowed to persist and over the past 10 years every federal law enforcement agency has been sued for discrimination, Mr. Branch added.

According to former Marshal Picket, the Marshal Service has to get rid of racist top management in Washington, who are hiding the agency's problem, and start fresh.

Agent Fogg chides the Justice Department for its slowness in resolving discrimination.

"When you talk about the Justice Department, it makes you feel bad. Because you say here is the U.S. Department of Justice, which is spearheading attacks on race discrimination, and within house we are experiencing this very type of discrimination. (Though) it looks like the Justice Department is out there making people adhere to the law," Agent Fogg said.



[Congressional Correspondence](#)

Continuous update of illegal incidents