

# NAACP NEWS

## *Georgia State Conference*

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### NAACP LAUNCHES INVESTIGATION INTO LAW ENFORCEMENT DEATHS

On Monday, April 2, 2007, the Georgia NAACP State Conference will hold a press conference announcing the formation of a special state-wide committee to investigate deaths caused by law enforcement entities.

2006 saw a number of high-profile, controversial police shootings of citizens that resulted in deaths, including the shooting death of 92 year-old Kathryn Johnson in Atlanta, and a dozen deaths at the hands of the Dekalb County Police Department. The investigation will not only include police departments and sheriff's offices, but also prisons and jails where deaths have occurred. In Lowndes County, three suspicious deaths occurred at the jail in 2006 alone.

"Law enforcement agencies must and will be held accountable for the instances in which improper use of deadly force occurred," said Mr. Edward DuBose, President of the Georgia NAACP State Conference. "The time for cover-ups and corruption is over!"

The special committee has already begun compiling data and interviewing witnesses surrounding questionable deaths. Once all of the information is gathered, investigated, and analyzed, recommendations will be made to the U.S. Department of Justice for possible prosecution of the law enforcement agency in question.

"These investigations will be comprehensive and thorough," added Kimberly Alexander, Chairperson for the Special Committee to Investigates Deaths by Law Enforcement Entities. "The families of the victims deserve to know the truth surrounding the death of their loved ones."



Founded in 1909, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) is the nation's oldest and largest civil rights organization. Its half-million adult and youth members throughout the United States and the world are the premier advocates for civil rights in their communities and monitor equal opportunity in the public and private sectors