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CITIZENS RALLY AGAINST RACIST ATTACKS ON ARLINGTON COUPLE

End Racism in Arlington Rally set for Arlington City Hall

Friendship-West Baptist Church, Dallas, TX , February 4, 2008 - - Friday, February 29, 2008 at 12:00 Noon citizens who are tired of racist acts in Arlington will join with the group, Enough Racism in Arlington (ERA), at Arlington City Hall, 101 W. Abram Street, Arlington, TX, to call attention to what they say is the most hideous racist attack the area has seen since a black man, Donald Thomas, was shot by a racist skinhead as he sat on the back of a pick-up truck in his Arlington neighborhood in 1991.

Two days after a black couple, Broderick Gamble and Silk Littlejohn, moved into their Arlington home in the summer of 2005 it was burned to the ground. Fire officials ruled it an accidental blaze caused by an iron that was left on. Over the next two years the couple found dozens of dead animals in their yard and witnessed other experiences with racist overtones.

On December 19, 2007 Grace Snowden Head, an elderly white woman, trashed the couple's front yard. Later that day she came back to their home, using racial slurs and threats, while also commanding her Doberman Pinscher to attack the couple. While the couple was distracted defending against the dog, Ms. Head picked up a two-by-four board and hit Ms. Littlejohn in the face. She continued her tirade by jumping on top of the couple's car and stomping.

Ms. Head was originally charged with aggravated assault, criminal trespass and failure to identify herself to a police officer. Jail Supervisor Sgt. B. Bates concluded that a two-by-four was not considered a deadly weapon; therefore he dropped the original charge down to simple assault. Ms. Head was then released on \$ 4000bond and was not charged with a hate crime even though Lt. Blake Miller told the media, "It was clearly a racial tirade [that] Ms. Head went on." He also said Ms. Head refused to leave the couple's property even after an officer "ordered her to do so."

Two days after the attack Mr. Gamble was called by a neighbor to his home where he found the words "KILL" and "DIE NIGGER" spray-painted on his garage doors. Although Ms. Head had already posted bond and was on the streets, the police said they didn't know who defaced the property.

Mr. Gamble and Ms. Littlejohn, along with ERA spokesperson Rev. Frederick D. Haynes, III, will be speaking out about the many racial problems occurring in the city of Arlington as they call for an end to racism.