

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS  
TYLER DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

V.

TYLER INDEPENDENT SCHOOL  
DISTRICT, ET AL.

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CIVIL ACTION NO. 5176

CURTIS DUNN, ET AL.

V.

TYLER INDEPENDENT SCHOOL  
DISTRICT, ET AL.

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CIVIL ACTION NO. 5285

ORDER CLARIFYING DUTIES, RESPONSIBILITIES AND  
AUTHORITY OF BI-RACIAL COMMITTEE

On November 19, 1971, this court received a letter from Chairman James C. Wynne, Jr., on behalf of his committee, requesting additional clarification of the duties and responsibilities of the Bi-Racial Committee ordered by the court on July 8, 1971, and appointed on August 3, 1971. In response to that letter, the following additional guidelines are provided and compliance ORDERED:

1. The Bi-Racial Committee shall no longer be exclusively an advisory body to the Board of Education and administration of the Tyler Independent School District, but is charged with the responsibility of acting as an agent of this court to advise and make recommendations to the court in the transition of the District to a unitary status.

2. The Committee shall carefully review the following areas, which the Supreme Court has ruled may reflect the racial policies and practices of a school system: (1) faculty and staff, (2) transportation of students, (3) extracurricular activities, (4) school facilities, and (5) student assignments. Other areas which may appear relevant from time to time or may be referred to them by the court or the Board of Education may also be reviewed.

3. Meetings, discussions and deliberations of the Committee shall be conducted in executive session; and its recommendations to the court on any matters coming before it shall be considered privileged and not released to the press or otherwise made public except through the orders of this court.

4. The Committee may receive referrals or complaints from the school administration or Board of Education, the court, or individual citizens in the community. They are authorized to hold hearings and conduct public meetings from time to time as they deem necessary. In investigating complaints, they are encouraged to take advantage of existing grievance procedures.

5. In order to fulfill its duties, the Committee shall meet at least once each month and shall make formal reports to this court and the Board of Education at least once each quarter.

6. The Committee shall adopt its own rules of procedure to govern its meetings where not specified in this and prior orders. By-laws shall be filed with the court and with the Board of Education.

It is further ORDERED that the Board of Education of the Tyler Independent School District, the Superintendent of Schools, all other officials, teachers, agents and employees of the District, and all other persons acting in concert with them, cooperate fully with the Committee to effectuate its purposes and objectives. To this end, the Board shall designate not less than one nor more than three persons, who shall be members of the Board of Education or members of the administrative staff of the Tyler Independent School District, to act as liaison between the Bi-Racial Committee and Board of Education, and to attend the meetings of the Bi-Racial Committee when requested to do so by the Committee.

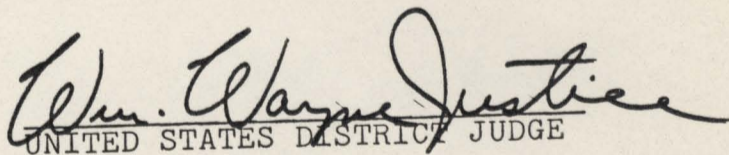
The Community Relations Service (CRS), Department of Justice, by and through its Regional Director, Mr. Larry Ramirez, 1100 Commerce Street, Dallas, Texas 75202, is hereby

requested by the court to meet with the Committee within 15 days after the date of this order to assist in its restructuring and additional organization.

The Court believes that the Bi-Racial Committee will provide a valuable and necessary service to the court and to the Board of Education, and more importantly, to the school children and parents of the Tyler Independent School District. It is not the purpose of the Committee to supersede the Board. Its advice and recommendations, reached objectively and in a non-partisan manner, will serve, however, as a basis for final action by the Board or by the Court in matters relating to the desegregation process.

Let the foregoing be served upon the Tyler Independent School District School Board, by and through its President, Lemuel Hutchins, and upon the Superintendent of Schools, James Plyler, members of the Bi-Racial Committee, and all other parties through their attorneys of record, by certified mail.

SIGNED and ENTERED this 17<sup>th</sup> day of December, 1971.

  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE