



CITY OF ATLANTA

MAYNARD JACKSON, MAYOR

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

175 DECATUR STREET, S.E.

ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303

(404) 658-6700

LEE P. BROWN
Public Safety Commissioner

January 23, 1981

Dear Community Leader:

The Department of Public Safety has designated the homicides and disappearances of the 16 Black children in Atlanta as its number one priority. All possible efforts and resources are being mobilized to solve these crimes. While a concentrated effort is being made to investigate and prevent further crimes, the Department is also concerned about the impact of this crisis on the emotional health of Black children and their families. The living and learning environment of children at home, school and on playgrounds may not be psychologically safe. Parents and teachers are reportedly having difficulty handling the increased levels of stress and anxiety exhibited by children as a result of this crisis.

To effectively address these concerns, the Department of Public Safety convened a group of Black mental health professionals to analyze the situation. This group's mission is to mobilize community resources and concert efforts to counteract both the immediate and long term effects of the 'missing and murdered children' phenomenon. Although the neighborhoods and schools of these children will be focused, this effort will respond to needs of the Black community City-wide, and draw upon local, state and federal resources.

To initiate this process this Task Force is sponsoring a planning conference with representation from a broad spectrum of professional and service organizations and agencies, as well as school, neighborhood and community groups. Because of your personal, professional or civic involvement in community life, this planning body requests your participation in the conference. The theme of the conference is "I Am My Brother's Keeper".

This conference will be held on Saturday, February 14, 1981 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Atlanta University, Dean Sage Hall (223 Chestnut Street, S.W.). No fees will be charged. Attendance will be limited to pre-registrants only.

Enclosed you will find a preliminary outline of the workshop sessions and a confirmation slip indicating your plans to attend. Please return

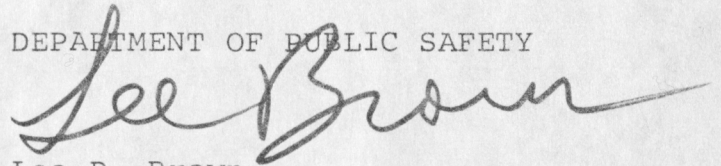
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the confirmation slip no later than February 6, 1981 to the S.A.F.E. Program, 55 Georgia Avenue, S.E., Atlanta, Georgia 30312. If you have any questions concerning the workshop please call Ms. Jaci Mays Vickers at 577-7233.

I look forward to seeing you there.

Yours For A Safer Atlanta,

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Lee Brown", written in a cursive style.

Lee P. Brown
Commissioner

LPB/br

Enclosure