

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE**  
**NORTH CAROLINA STATE CONFERENCE**

P.O. Box 335- Durham, North Carolina 27702  
866-626-2227 ~ 919-682-4700 ~ Fax 919-682-4711  
[www.naacpnc.org](http://www.naacpnc.org) ~ [www.hkonj.com](http://www.hkonj.com)

Rev. Dr. William J. Barber, II  
President

Rev. Michelle A. Laws  
Executive Director

December 11, 2014

The Honorable Pat McCrory  
Governor of North Carolina  
20301 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-0301

RE: Request for Federal Investigative Help of Suspicious Death in Bladen County

Dear Governor McCrory:

We urgently request that you put the weight of your office behind the NC NAACP's request to U.S. Attorney Thomas Walker to engage his and the U.S. Department of Justice's investigative arm—the FBI—in the effort to ensure all relevant evidence is considered by Bladen County D.A. Jon David before he rules the death of 17-year-old Lennon Lacy a *suicide*.

In our letter to Mr. Walker (attached), we reported that the investigative team, which was organized the morning the 207 lb. African American male linebacker was cut down from a swing set in a white trailer park in Bladenboro, quickly ruled the young football player's death a *suicide*. The Lacy family requested our help and our preliminary inquiries quickly found problems with the initial investigation. We also retained an independent expert pathologist, whose report corroborated several problems with the investigative team's decision. We have provided the U.S. Attorney with this report and other leads.

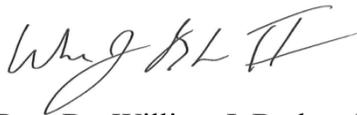
This case has already sparked the interest of several local and national journalists, including Katie Couric who has produced a comprehensive video report of the investigation, which you can find here: <http://news.yahoo.com/katie-couric-interviews-family-of-lennon-lacy-022023750.html>.

Lennon's family has said on multiple occasions that it can accept a conclusion that he took his own life. So can the NC NAACP. But with the issues surrounding the local investigation, which has caused a community outcry and suspicion, we believe it is in the interest of D.A. David, the family, the County, and the state of North Carolina—which has set a record in botched

investigations and prosecutions of Black men in the past few years—to go the extra mile in ruling out the very real possibilities that this was not a suicide and that others were involved in Lennon’s suspicious death.

We believe your support of federal assistance in investigating this suspicious death will help to assure that when D.A. Jon David makes his final decision on the case, he will have a comprehensive investigative file in front of him. Thank you for supporting us in this request.

Sincerely,



Rev. Dr. William J. Barber, II  
President, North Carolina NAACP



Rev. Michelle A. Laws  
Executive Director, North Carolina NAACP

Enclosure: Request for Federal Investigation to U.S. Attorney Thomas Walker  
cc: U.S. Attorney Thomas Walker  
Bladen D.A. Jon David