



# COMPLAINT OF DISCRIMINATION

Based on race, color, religion, national origin, sex, and handicapped status.

Completing this form does not constitute filing an official complaint with a legal authority. At this time, the NAACP is only seeking information to assist you concerning this complaint.

Submit by Email

Print Form

**NOTARIZE and Mail or Deliver to: BILOXI BRANCH N.A.A.C.P.  
P. O. BOX 4149 260 P MAIN ST.  
BILOXI, MISSISSIPPI 39535-4149**

(Please fill-in or print)

1. NAME | April Scheller | E-MAIL | [redacted]@proton.me

ADDRESS | Unhoused but virtual address is [redacted] | PHONE | Not-working

CITY | Green Cove Springs, FL | COUNTY | Harrison | ST | MS | ZIP | 32043-3443

### 2. WAS THE DISCRIMINATION BASED UPON (Please check all of those that apply) ?

- |                 |                                     |                    |                          |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|
| Race or Color   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Sex                | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Religion        | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Age                | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| National Origin | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Handicapped Status | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|                 |                                     | Other              | <input type="checkbox"/> |

### 3. WHO DISCRIMINATED AGAINST YOU?

Police in Biloxi

WHAT IS THE NAME | \_\_\_\_\_ | ADDRESS | \_\_\_\_\_

CITY | \_\_\_\_\_ | COUNTY | Harrison | ST | MS | ZIP | \_\_\_\_\_

#### OF THE PERSON WHO DISCRIMINATED AGAINST YOU?

Unknown but on video shared with Melisa Galatas of Gulf Coast center for nonviolence who I gave permission to share for me as with my devices, no WiFi, no home. I'm having trouble

### 4. HAVE YOU FILED A COMPLAINT WITH ANY GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES? YES NO

But am considering it when I have more internet time at a library or get my phone fixed.

### 5. HAVE YOU RETAINED AN ATTORNEY REGARDING THE CASE? YES NO

ATTY. NAME | \_\_\_\_\_ | E-MAIL | \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS | \_\_\_\_\_ | PHONE | \_\_\_\_\_

CITY | \_\_\_\_\_ | COUNTY | \_\_\_\_\_ | ST | Mississippi | ZIP | \_\_\_\_\_

6. WHAT IS THE ACTUAL DATE OR MOST RECENT DATE ON WHICH THIS DISCRIMINATION OCCURED?

7-29-23

7. EXPLAIN WHAT UNFAIR THING WAS DONE TO YOU?

Have typed report at the Morry with thing police wouldn't hear, did ignore, or have since troubled me based on the strange reactions of people, why I am trying to leave Biloxi but ask you look for Shirley at the NAACP. please last night people kept asking about a short Black man or otherwise telling about one. I don't know what is happening but it wasn't happening the 5 1/2 months I lived around the streets of covington so it isn't street life in general see attached 3 pages.

Please attach additional pages if more space is needed.

NOTARIZE.

I AFFIRM THAT I HAVE READ THE ABOVE CHARGE AND THAT IT IS TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, INFORMATION, AND BELIEF.

SIGNATURE OF COMPLAINANT April Shuster DATE 8-1-23

FOR NAACP USE ONLY	
CASE MANAGER REFERRED TO:	Biloxi Branch NAACP
LEGAL REDRESS FORM PROCESSED/SENT BY (INITIALS):	DATE SENT/PROCESSED:





8-01-23

To whom it may concern,

I am using this form to report I experienced positive discrimination towards whites when reporting a crime as a witness. I reported the crime along with a black woman named Shirley who experienced negative discrimination when police responded to Shirley's 911 call by threatening to arrest her in the future, told her they'd assume she was the problem in the future.

I am using the word positive discrimination not as an attack on affirmative action but to point out that discrimination is inherently a comparison between outcomes among different kinds of people... if Shirley experiences the threat of arrest if she calls police in the future because police do not like she reports that a man will not leave her be... but I who back up as a witness also report to police the man does not let her be... yet I am not threatened with arrest, that is bias which has a different outcome for a black person as a white-passing one... this much is an inescapable truth based in the record I made of the attempt to report this crime.

Instead of hearing either of us out, Police threatened Shirley with arrest for a police call they suggest she makes in the future, ignored my telling them that Shirley had been pursued by this man who would not leave her alone in the park, told Shirley that she tends to disturb the peace by 'arguing' with people and that the man who would not leave her alone could sit anywhere he pleased including 'right beside' her because Lighthouse Park 'owned by the city of Biloxi' is a 'public park'.

I have video of the police interaction to be sure. Unfortunately since Shirley had to phone 911 and I had to keep standing between her pursuer and Shirley... we lost the chance to record the verbal threats of physical abuse he made along with the claim he made that police would allow him, him throwing an object at her... arguing that she was not a human being so that he could.

Instead of trying to get the full story the police kept interrupting us both in order to provide imaginary future events in which Shirley misuses their time and is arrested for disturbing the peace. Then they told us Merry Christmas (it was JULY 29th 2023) and goodbye. I told them the man had thrown something at Shirley and I had told the man that he cannot do that because she is a human being to which the man had argued that she was not a human being. Police just ignored us and walked away.

They also assumed the man had goodwill in reporting without evidence that we were strewing period products throughout the park and thanked the man for claiming to pick up our kotex and tampons. This was sexist and unlikely, I never saw Shirley throwing any products and at 62 I doubt she even uses them. I don't use kotex and tampons they are insufficient... due to severe fibroids I have had to buy incontinence underwear for seniors for a long time. The man did not know... and it is he that is listened to and even thanked by police for reporting a crime by us to which there isn't any evidence in his favor.

I have had strange encounters before with Karens (slang for people who misuse police time to inform on people who aren't causing a problem) inclusive of having police misused upon me... I have also had to deal with rumors about police informants as an activist and hated this happened these days I really avoid interacting with police... so I watched the video I had made three times trying to piece through the weirdness I had seen and heard about Shirley and the police. I don't engage police easily including when someone else wants to call them... but I didn't feel she'd be treated the same even if she were a Karen were she simply a Karen while white... then finally I realize if police had been right we'd misused their time we'd both be Karens... why was only Shirley threatened with arrest and not me?

Finally they simply did not listen to me and did little besides imagine that Shirley was to blame they walked off from and/or ignored all evidence supporting Shirley. That is biased.

The NAACP and other forms are only for reporting discrimination against yourself. Shirley has no phone as she's homeless too and I have no idea if she is safe today. I have no way to contact her although she promised upon film to make a complaint concerning the conduct of these police. Therefore I report discrimination in that Shirley and I were both reporting the man was harassing her and yet... Shirley is the only person to experience the negative bias of being imagined to waste their time... thus I have experienced positive bias although I was also dismissed without hearing me out, additionally I heard police accept without any evidence that we women had been throwing out period products for this male to 'love' picking up. I don't know if police meant it how it sounded to thank him for that... but the context was bad for assuming good faith in our interaction overall.

I tell you this man indicated that he could do as he wished with both of us but that the police would never arrest him no matter what he did. Shirley reports he'd been picking fights with a lot of people in this park. I don't know when I first met the man because I have face blindness but in the days prior to this police call the man's face had been smeared with slowly drying blood from an injury he claimed was chivalrous and I so I know I recall him proclaiming that the worst thing the government had done was forbid men death dueling. The context of his threats were left in the realm of possibility but deliberately made to be bizarre. He is the one who is using the police if the police are not in truth employing him as he indicated, but both of us received unsolicited attention over his perception of our gender being female and both of us asked him to leave us alone and instead he kept coming, kept making threats of physical harm, and refused to stop pursuing Shirley.

I heard him use a homophobic slur to claim he would hire someone else to beat Shirley. He told me he'd hunt me down with pleasure, that he'd put a water moccasin upon me while I slept. He told me he is 'not above making bombs'. Like imagining that women are dropping tampons for him... his claims fall in the realm of possibility but are designed to make the person repeating them sound like they are misusing someone's time... but with stereotypes about homeless women... I guess the cops believe this is the reason he keeps moving to follow Shirley in the park who is 62 whilst two people are asking him to leave her alone.

Then police make up an imaginary conflict Shirley has with someone else... and promise to arrest her later for that.

Now, I'm a stickler for justice and so I could understand if police had just told us they lacked sufficient evidence to do anything but tell him to stay away from Shirley and I... but what I do not understand is police threatening to arrest Shirley who has a witness corroborating much of what Shirley had said who has never before encountered the Biloxi police... additionally they threatened to arrest 'if ever' she reports alleged crimes after being told by us the man had claimed to be above the law and indicated he might work under police approval.

I believe this has had a very negative impact on the men on the streets who listen to that garbage about chivalry by this sexist who has misused our time as homeless people trying to rest to insist he wants to re-introduce duels.

I voluntarily promised police to try to stay away from him, I have face blindness and do not want to be accused of bothering anyone again tampons or none... I asked people to please warn me if I was hanging around anyone in the future who owns a shirt with a raccoon upon it that I might stay away... as I do not plan on remaining long in Biloxi. But last night I've experienced people (again not sure who but multiple) asking or telling me instead about a short black man and have learned there is another Shirley in our community than the one I am trying to ensure stays safe... this other Shirley's white I don't think I know her or this short black man. I have declined to further describe raccoon shirt to the community. But I have told them he is white and Shirley black. I have further told them that if he's not blowing hot air about the informant stuff like he was about the tampons... that he's bait and whatever their opinions about chivalry they need to let the bait be.

I fear that police disrespect for homeless people in the community, the stigmatization of all homeless men which entices faux respect under very outdated gender norms for street women, the scarcity of homeless women to

counter stereotypes about our vulnerability or damsel-hood, the garbage strewn about by sexists that the police do nothing about concerning outdated norms of 'manhood' and the thought that duels must replace police... are creating a toxic atmosphere where random men are claiming to look out for women when they are just crossing the street, treating us as if we must have knights, and may result if not taken seriously, in the kind of male-on-male violence that Shirley was trying to warn about to police, when she claims someone beat him to the ground, and the kind of violence that comes from sexism itself upon women. I also fear that because this white man in a raccoon shirt appeals to others capably whenever he decides to curry favor that there are rumors instead about a white Shirley and/or this short black man whomever he is. Additionally, he's not above claiming he is doing so with the support of the police.

Actual violence I have heard no one in particular besides the man police ignored Shirley complain about suggest... but there has been a lot of general we'll protect you stuff in weird situations, people seem to ignore that I am queer. In general... street women aren't heard. Combined with the dueling crap and the questioning about a short black man and the white Shirley... it just has me worried that's all.

I plead with the NAACP to do all possible to locate Shirley and see if she needs reasonable assistance remaining safe, not because she's a woman or black but due to prejudice. I also ask police not to invent imaginary crimes of the future blamed upon an identified victim... it doesn't do anyone any good whatsoever. I'm not alone in worrying this could lead to violence because Shirley is reporting there has been that and the blood that was drying on the face of that sexist tends to convince me to take it serious. I have tried to ask other homeless women to help me correct these rumors that seem to be swirling that Shirley is white and or raccoon shirt is black, but I am getting out of Biloxi as soon as I can, because I fear there are both people who do and don't care what the truth is... see street women as damsels to be won... and a sexist man who claims to be following us just that he may collect our tampons... while police lecture that the park is public and he can sit with whomever and thank him for his courtesy. Meanwhile if he isn't blowing hot air about being an informant... then I couldn't even be sure who else I am talking to when asking to just treat women as human beings and stop trying to act like we are things that need men to support us.

Police should be accountable for the information they invent and the effect it has on those who ask their assistance inclusive of street women no matter their color. This was unfair to us both, that other Shirley, whomever the short black man is, and even raccoon shirt though he triggered this situation and seems like to get away with it, who stirs up this crap about women and our needs, as Shirley reports not all the men are happy with him either... and people keep asking me to describe him better.

This community deserves better bias prevention.

Sincerely,

April Scheller

