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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Fayette County Releases Latest Legal Fees from Outside Counsel

Fayette County, Georgia, December 12, 2014 – The Fayette County Board of Commissioners recently received up-to-date billing statements from the attorneys hired to represent the county government in the NAACP district voting lawsuit.

The legal bills to outside counsel involve two cases, *Ga. State Conf. of the NAACP v. Fayette County* and *Lindsay v. Fayette County* concerning districting voting plans for the Commission. The submission of the bills was delayed by illness of one of our counsel on the defense team, who was the lawyer responsible for sending the county the bills.

“Although it is atypical for us to receive statements dating back to 2013 in such a delayed fashion, our staff was aware of the illness situation and that some charges to the county could be delayed,” noted Chairman Steve Brown. “I believe the plaintiff’s attorneys were also aware of the defense team member’s illness.”

Fees paid from the latest statements cover all outstanding billing from January 2013 to the present in the amount of \$162,663.95.

The latest statements bring the legal account current with the firm of Strickland, Brockington and Lewis, LLP. However, there may be future legal fees related to the appeal currently before the Eleventh Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals.

The main case is the *Ga. State Conf. of the NAACP v. Fayette County*. In that case, our counsel has billed the County \$434,155 in fees and expenses over the three and a half years of the case. In contrast, as of April 28, 2014 the NAACP lawyers have incurred fees and expenses of \$787,882.

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