



UNC  
CAROLINA BLACK CAUCUS

*Celebrating Our Community*

**May 10, 2017**

***The Carolina Black Caucus, as representatives of the UNC workforce, is disheartened to observe members of our governing body launch disingenuous attacks on the UNC Center for Civil Rights. BOG members provided examples of two counties spending enormous amounts of money on litigation as one reason to discontinue the work of the Center. However, there was no mention about the injustice parents faced to defend segregation plans in one county school district. The other county attempted to expand a landfill through an African American community. Each county retain full-time counsel, but chose to pay for outside attorneys. How misleading is it that the Center is blamed for an economic shortfall, and not the discriminatory practices against its citizens?***

***The Caucus is disappointed that rather than celebrate the Center's great work defending the rights of North Carolinians, proceedings are underway in which we must defend the existence of an organization that has protected the rights of so many disenfranchised throughout our state. As the nation's first public university, we've remained faithful to our founders' charge to "duly encourage and promote all useful learning for the betterment of humanity." There is no greater example of this directive than UNC's Center for Civil Rights to uphold our teaching, research, & service mission. To that end, we ask that the BOG decline the proposal to prohibit centers and institutes at its public law schools from engaging in litigation.***

**O.J. McGhee,  
Carolina Black Caucus, Chair**