



**February 21, 2020**

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23rd Judicial District Judge Jessie LeBlanc should resign or be removed from the bench immediately. Assumption Parish Sheriff Leland Falcon cited that text messages with racial slurs were sent to his one-time chief criminal deputy by Judge Jessie LeBlanc.

This dispute is the latest twist in the public fight over allegations that 23rd Judicial District Judge Jessie LeBlanc had a years-long affair with Capt. Bruce Prejean, which has led to an effort to remove her from criminal cases involving the sheriff's office.

Sheriff Leland Falcon cited photocopies of the messages, and his questioning of Prejean shows that LeBlanc used the N word in criticizing a black court employee and a black Assumption sheriff's deputy. Judge Jessie LeBlanc has shown the inability to present high moral character, which The NAACP feels is pertinent when serving in a Judiciary Seat or Function.

Although Judge Jessie LeBlanc denies sending these messages from her phone, we find it hard to believe that anyone else would have access to a judge's phone while texting a Chief Criminal Deputy. This act shows a blatant disrespect for members of the African American Community, and further shows Judge LeBlanc shouldn't be serving. The NAACP has planned a series of peaceful demonstrations, both electronic and physical.

The NAACP feels that the use of such language is inappropriate for a Judge to use; the judicial process should be free of any hint of prejudice or bias. The actions of Judge Jessie LeBlanc show that there is bias on the bench, and she should be removed from the bench for the use of the word. Judge Jessie Leblanc has failed, and she has shown a deplorable sense of morality.

Sincerely,

President. Eugene Collins, BR NAACP Branch

President. Michael McClanahan, NAACP Convention