













NORTH CAROLINA
STATE HIGHWAY & PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION
PRISON DIVISION
RALEIGH

Name Joseph Judge Classification 25 W 413
 Alias 8533 Color N Sex M Height 5' 10"
 No. 1341

1-Right Thumb	2-R. Index Finger	3-R. Middle Finger	4-R. Ring Finger	5-R. Little Finger
				
6-Left Thumb	7-L. Index Finger	8-L. Middle Finger	9-L. Ring Finger	10-L. Little Finger
				

Four fingers taken simultaneously
Left hand

Four fingers taken simultaneously
Right hand

Amputations

Left Thumb Right Thumb

NO. 1341

Care should be used to see that prints are fully rolled so as to include delta and core of print and that the print be made clear in order that classification can be properly made.

INVESTIGATION REPORT
PRISON DIVISION
BALDWIN

Initiation APRIL 1939 113 Located at State Prison, N.C.

Prisoners

Home Address Chillicothe, N.C.

Home of Father Chillicothe, N.C.

Address Chillicothe, N.C.

Home of Brother or Sister

Address

Home of wife or husband Answer to

Address Bureau of Identification, Prison Division

Home of Relative State Highway & Public Works Commission

Address Highway Building, Raleigh, N.C.

Scars and marks OUT GEAR IN FORBIDDEN

Received Feb. 11, 1939

From Chillicothe County

Crime False Imprisonment

Sentence 1 yr. 30 days

Date of sentence Feb. 15, 1939

Sentence begins Feb. 16, 1939

Sentence expires

Good time sentence expires

Date of birth 1909 Occupation Farmer

Birthplace N.C. Nationality American

Age 30 Comp. July

Height 5' 10" Eyes Blue

Weight 160 Hair Black

Build Slender

CRIMINAL HISTORY

NAME	NUMBER	CITY OR INSTITUTION	DATE	CRIME	DISPOSITION OR SENTENCE
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> <p>PAROLED <u>10-8-43</u> MAY 16 1946</p> </div> <div> <p>RECEIVED <u>FEB 11 1939</u> P. I. DIV.</p> </div> </div>					

(Please furnish all additional criminal history and police record on separate sheet)

Name John J. Whitaker Classification W 88 F 11
 No. 10544 Color Blue Sex Male

1. Thumb 22 2. Index finger 0 3. Middle finger 14 4. Ring finger 14 5. Little finger 14

6. Thumb 13 7. Index finger 0 8. Middle finger 14 9. Ring finger 14 10. Little finger 14

LEFT HAND
 Four fingers taken simultaneously
 Four fingers taken simultaneously
 RIGHT HAND
 Four fingers taken simultaneously

Impressions taken by: P. V. P.
 Date impressions taken: 2-1-33

Prisoner's signature:

PLEASE DO NOT FOLD THIS CARD

Name WILLIAM JUDGE Classification 25 W 005 15
 Alias 12 W 007 16
 No. 171427 Color WHITE Sex MALE
 264345

Right Hand
 1. Thumb 2. Index finger 3. Middle finger 4. Ring finger 5. Little finger
 Left Hand
 6. Thumb 7. Index finger 8. Middle finger 9. Ring finger 10. Little finger

Four fingers taken simultaneously
 LEFT HAND
 Four fingers taken simultaneously
 RIGHT HAND

Amputations
 Left thumb it is a thumb
 Four fingers taken simultaneously
 RIGHT HAND

Date impressions taken 10/1/1917
 By J. Williams
 (Indicates or official, typed name)
 Date impressions taken 10/1/1917
 By J. Williams
 (Indicates or official, typed name)

PLEASE DO NOT FOLD THIS CARD

HAILEIGH
MOORE AND MOORE

Institution N.C. State Prison

Located at Halifax N.S. Camp #109

Président

Whitakers, U.C.

Home of ~~XXXXX~~ Mother (M) Mrs. W. H. Judge

Address Whitakers, N.C.

Home of Brother or Sister.

Address

Home of Wife or Husband:

Address

Home of Relative

Address

Scars and marks . . . Scar On Left Cheek

CRIMINAL HISTORY

NAME	NUMBER	CITY AND IDENTIFICATION	DATE	CHARGE	DISPOSITION OR SENTENCE
<p style="text-align: center;"> RECEIVED APR 29 1948 BUREAU OF IDENTIFICATION PENAL DIVISION </p>					
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> DETAINER FILED MAY 7 1948 <small>DATE</small> </div>					

RECEIVED

APR 29 1948

BUREAU OF IDENTIFICATION

PENA DIVISION

(Please furnish all additional criminal history and police record on separate sheet)

Name John Joseph Judge		Classification M 25 W 00 I 14	
Alias		Reference 12 W 00 M 16	
No. 224197		MASTER	
Color White		Sex Male	
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> <p>1. Thumb</p> </div> <div> <p>2. Index finger</p> </div> <div> <p>3. Middle finger</p> </div> <div> <p>4. Ring finger</p> </div> <div> <p>5. Little finger</p> </div> </div>			
<p style="text-align: center;">Right Hand</p>			
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> <p>6. Thumb</p> </div> <div> <p>7. Index finger</p> </div> <div> <p>8. Middle finger</p> </div> <div> <p>9. Ring finger</p> </div> <div> <p>10. Little finger</p> </div> </div>			
<p style="text-align: center;">Left Hand</p>			
<p>Four fingers taken simultaneously</p> <p>LEFT HAND</p>		<p>Four fingers taken simultaneously</p> <p>RIGHT HAND</p>	
<p>Amputations</p> <p>Left-Thumb Right-Thumb</p>		<p>Amputations</p> <p>Left-Thumb Right-Thumb</p>	
<p>Signature of Subject</p> <p><i>L. E. Judge</i></p>		<p>Signature of Examiner</p> <p><i>Joseph M. Judge</i></p>	
<p>Date Impressions taken 4/22/1948</p>		<p>Date Impressions taken</p>	
PLEASE DO NOT FOLD THIS CARD			

Issued at ... Aboskie, N. C.

Plaintiff
 Home Address Induborg, H. C.
 Date received 11/29/55 Court No.
 From Nashville County Hugh
 Crime Will to pay tax

Address Wilkerson, H. C.





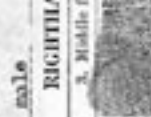











Address

Address

Hears and marks Sear on node and forehead

[illegible]

(Please furnish all additional criminal history and police record on accurate sheets)

Name <u>JUDGE, Joseph</u> Alias <u>PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT PLAINLY</u>		Cl. classification <u>25' W 00T 14</u> Reference <u>12 W 00M 16</u>	
No. <u>326623</u> Color <u>white</u> Sex <u>male</u>		LEAVE THIS SIDE BLANK	
RIGHT HAND			
1. Thumb	2. Index finger	3. Middle finger	4. Ring finger
			
5. Little finger 			
LEFT HAND			
6. Thumb	7. Index finger	8. Middle finger	9. Ring finger
			
10. Little finger 			
Four fingers taken simultaneously LEFT HAND 		Four fingers taken simultaneously RIGHT HAND 	
Amputations 		Amputations 	
Left thumb 		Right thumb 	
Impressions taken by: <u>B. E. Melvin</u> (SIGNATURE OF OFFICIAL TAKING PRINTS)		Prisoners signature: <u>Joseph Judge</u>	
Date Impressions taken <u>11.29/55</u>		PLEASE DO NOT FOLD THIS CARD	







BEN A. PARANCO
 Mayor
 BILL G. KENNEDY
 Mayor
 MAURICE J. COOPER
 Chief of Police
 THOMAS L. BATTLE
 and others



TOWN OF NASHVILLE

NASHVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA
 27856

COMMISSIONERS
 DAVID B. GOSI
 W. HEATH HARRIS
 J. P. WOODARD
 BRYAN J. BASS

PERMIT

Permit to Picket as set forth in th Code of the Town
 of Nashville, Chapter II, Section 10 to be effective
 from:

DATE: September 19, 1977 to September 23, 1977

Such picketing is not to begin before 9:00 AM daily, nor
 extend beyond 5:00 PM each day.

Alex A. Paranco
 Alex A. Paranco, Mayor



OUR STRUGGLE WILL CONTINUE!

Today Joe Judge, a rich white shopkeeper and alumnus, confessed murderer of Charlie Lee, an Afro-American worker, will stand trial here in Nashville. For five months since the murder, Joe Judge has walked the streets of Whitakers a free man - free to continue cheating the masses of people who buy at this store, free to continue carrying a gun to threaten the people. Judge has been protected by the police, the courts, the whole government, while those of us struggling for justice have been harassed, intimidated, and even arrested on trumped up charges. And we expect today will be no different. The courts serve the rich and will try to crush the poor, especially poor Black people. Justice will NOT be done in the rich man's courts.

At the same time, in Fayetteville, a 16 year old Afro-American youth was just sentenced to 30 years in jail for killing a white youth in self defense. The young white started a fight, and a knife appeared. The Black youth stabbed the white youth and the white youth later died. The murder weapon was never found. Witnesses made it clear that the white youth started the fight. Yet the young Black man will spend most of his life in prison.

In Whitakers, a rich white man kills a Black working man and very likely will go free. A young Black man in Fayetteville defends himself too well and goes to jail for 3 decades. This is what this criminal system brings - oppression and brutality for the masses, especially for Black people, and heaven for the rich, especially rich whites. There is no democracy, no justice, no so-called "human rights" for the poor and the Black, only rich whites get "justice", a phony justice that money can buy. Rich whites control the system and Black people are still treated like slaves. Poor whites are treated almost as bad.

Many hundreds of people have struggled for months to see justice done in the case of Joe Judge. Thousands more support this struggle. Last Saturday, a People's Trial group of over 100 Whitakers residents found Joe Judge guilty of murder. But this is a capitalist country where the rich rule and the People's word has no influence. So Joe Judge will not have to pay fully for his crime. But this will only strengthen our determination to struggle. And we must struggle not only for justice in cases like Joe Judge and the young brother in Fayetteville. But we must struggle against the whole class of rich white bloodsuckers who control the courts, the police, the government, the factories, and the fields. Cases like that of Joe Judge make clear to all of us that to improve our lives, to have real justice for the people, we must struggle against this class of rich, this class of murderers and thieves.

We will continue to struggle for justice in this case. We will continue to struggle even if the courts let Joe Judge go. We will continue to struggle against Joe Judge and his kind, to protect not only the Lee family, but the masses of poor people against injustice and oppression.

JUSTICE MUST BE DONE !

-PEOPLE'S COALITION FOR JUSTICE







NEW NORTH CAROLINA STATE STATUTE REQUIRING PICKETS TO BE 300 FEET
FROM COURTHOUSE (became effective July 1, 1977)

CHAPTER 266

HOUSE BILL 77

AN ACT TO PROHIBIT OBSTRUCTING THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE BY
PICKETING OR PARADING

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. A new section is added to General Statutes Chapter 14,
Article 30 ("Obstructing Justice"), to read as follows:

" § 14-225.1. Picketing or parading. -- Any person who,
with intent to interfere with, obstruct, or impede the
administration of justice, or with intent to influence any
justice or judge of the General Court of Justice, juror,
witness, district attorney, assistant district attorney,
or court officer, in the discharge of his duty, pickets,
parades, or uses any sound truck or similar device within
300 feet of an exit from any building housing any court of
the General Court of Justice, or within 300 feet of any
building or residence occupied or used by such justice,
judge, juror, witness, district attorney, assistant district
attorney, or court officer, shall upon plea or conviction
be guilty of a misdemeanor and imprisoned for not more than
two years or fined not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000),
or both.

Sec. 2. This act shall become effective on July 1, 1977.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this
the 28th day of April, 1977.

JAMES C. GREEN, SR.
James C. Green
President of the Senate

CARL J. STEWART, JR.
Carl J. Stewart, Jr.
Speaker of the House of Representa-
tives





Capitalist Courts Set Joe Judge Free! BUT the People's Coalition for Justice EXPOSES SHAM JUSTICE!

On Monday, September 19th, in Nashville, N.C. Joe Judge was clearly exposed by the People's Coalition for Justice as a murderer, a sex pervert, and a menace to the community of Whitakers for years. Judge's murder trial began at 10 a.m. in the Nash County Courthouse and by 11 a.m. (only one hour later!) Joe Judge walked out of the courthouse and got in his car -- a free man! The results of the sham show of justice shows the hypocrisy and injustice of the courts, the police, the district attorney, and the judge. As the People's Trial held in Whitakers last Saturday clearly demonstrated through the testimony of many witnesses, JOE JUDGE IS GUILTY OF FIRST DEGREE MURDER!!! We know that and Judge knows that.

The People's Coalition for Justice supports Mrs. Leola Lee's decision to accept the \$25,000, but we think that she deserved much more than that. This amount is nothing! If Charlie Lee had lived and worked until he was 65 years old, he would have earned 2-3 times this amount himself. We uphold Mrs. Lee's struggle to get the cash settlement. We also recognize the work of people in the Whitakers area over the past 5 months has been important and helped create the conditions for the \$25,000 offer. If people had not united and fought for justice, Joe Judge would have been free months ago and Ma. Lee would have no money today. We must be clear as to the importance of the people in this struggle.

Many people have been actively struggling through the People's Coalition for Justice over the past few months to see that justice is done in the Joe Judge murder case. As a result of this organization of people's united effort to struggle and fight for justice, the Whitakers people last Saturday morning arrested two PCJ members, Waldo James and Paul Bernardsen, on false charges of threatening an officer and trespassing. These arrests were clearly an attempt by the police to suppress our call for justice. However, we will not be stopped! We will fight to free our brothers and get all charges dropped when they go to trial in Nashville on October 4th.

In order to discuss the results of the Judge trial on Monday, to prepare for Waldo and Paul's trial, and decide where to go from here, we are calling a mass meeting of the PCJ this Wednesday, September 21st at 7:30 P.M. at the Bloomerhill Community Center on Highway 301 in Whitakers. COME! BRING YOUR FRIENDS!

Some people may think that now that Joe Judge is free and back operating his store that our struggle has been in vain. But we have not struggled for nothing! Progress has been made. What was won was only because of the people's struggle. And even more important, many hundreds of us have learned how treacherous the capitalist system is, how to fight better for justice and liberation. We must continue our fight for justice wherever it's needed -- in our plants, in the fields, in the streets of Whitakers, in the schools, and so on.

COME TO THE PCJ MASS MEETING!!
FIGHT TO GET CHARGES DROPPED AGAINST WALDO AND PAUL!!

~ PCJ MASS MEETING
Wed., Sept. 21st 7:30 P.M.
Bloomerhill COMMUNITY CENTER (Right side of bldg;
Revival will be on Left side)

The News and Observer

62 Pages Today

Raleigh, N.C., Tuesday, September 20, 1977

112th Year

Suspended term Whitakers man gets given in slaying suspended sentence

By JERRY ALLEGOOD
Staff Writer

NASHVILLE — John Joseph Judge, an elderly white store owner charged with murder in the death of a black farm worker in April, received a suspended jail term Monday after pleading no contest to a reduced charge of involuntary manslaughter.

Under the terms of a plea bargaining arrangement approved in Nash County Superior Court, Judge also agreed to pay the victim's family \$25,000.

According to evidence presented in the brief session, Judge shot Charlie Lee, 45, with a .35-caliber pistol in Judge's store in Whitakers on April 17 during an argument over a \$10 bill.

The defendant, 72, was charged with murder when Lee died two days later. Conviction of involuntary manslaughter carries a maximum penalty of 10 years in prison.

Judge John Webb of Wilson sentenced Judge to 10

See WHITAKERS, page 2

Continued from Page One

years but suspended the sentence for three years and ordered him to pay the settlement and court costs. He also ordered that the weapon be turned over to law enforcement officers.

"In light of the evidence, I believe this plea bargain is the best for all concerned," Webb said.

A small group of blacks and whites who said they were members of the "People's Coalition for Justice" conducted a peaceful demonstration two blocks from the courthouse. They carried posters which said "Judge must pay" and "If he'd been black, he would be in jail."

Leaders of the group denounced the negotiated settlement as evidence that "there is no justice for the poor and black."

The settlement was reached by defense attorneys and prosecutors including Robert L. Spencer, a Rocky Mount lawyer hired as a private prosecutor by Lee's family.

The victim's widow told the judge Monday that she was not pressured to accept the settlement and that she made the decision on her own.

"At this time you feel this is a good plea bargain for yourself and your family, for the sake for yourself and your family?" the judge asked.

"That's right," Mrs. Lee answered.

There was no questioning of potential jurors or witnesses.

District Attorney Frank Brown of Tarboro read statements about the incident from Judge and from Joseph L. Tippett and Milton Bryant, Whitakers resi-

dents who were in the store at the time of the shooting.

Tippett and Bryant said Lee accused Judge of giving him change for a \$10 bill instead of a \$20 bill when he was in the store earlier in the day. They said Judge told Lee he should have counted his money before he left.

According to Bryant's statement, Lee was cursing and Judge told him to "watch his mouth." Bryant said Lee put his hand in his pocket and Judge fired.

Judge told officers he ordered Lee three times to leave the store and, when he refused, he took out his pistol. He said he told Lee once more and then fired.

One of Judge's attorneys said a knife was later found in the area, but neither of the witnesses reported seeing a knife.



Judge John Webb

... accepts plea bargain

Black leaders in Whitakers, a small town in northeast Nash County, had criticized the handling of the case in a series of marches and demonstrations before the trial. Two demonstrators were arrested on Saturday on trespassing charges.

The media has intentionally misrepresented PJW's view of the \$25,000 settlement. (see leaflet on back). We support Mrs. Lee's decision to accept the money. However, we condemn the courts for not giving Joe Judge an active sentence for murdering our brother, Charlie Lee. Instead, they let him go free.





The News and Observer

Raleigh, N.C., Friday, September 23, 1977

112th Year



The News and Observer

I believe and enjoy those who direct the paper in the numerous ways to advance any cause for personal profit or preference. I would wish it always to be "the news" and devote itself to the policies of equality and justice in the underprivileged. If the paper should at any time be the voice of self-interest as become the spokesman of privilege or selfishness it would be untrue to its history.

JOSEPHUS DANIELS — Editor and Publisher 1894-1948

But what justice for Charlie Lee?

There is no perfect measure of justice, but it's clear that justice was not fully served in the placing of a \$25,000 value on the life of black farm worker Charlie Lee, 46, in Nash County.

John Joseph Judge, the white 73-year-old Whitakers country store operator who shot and killed Lee, emerged from a plea-bargaining agreement with a suspended sentence and an order to pay Lee's widow the \$25,000. Mrs. Lee and her attorney settled for what they apparently felt was the best that could be made of a bad situation. But where is the justice for Charlie Lee?

Evidence in the case indicat-

ed that Lee protested to the storeowner that earlier in the day Judge had given him change for a \$10 bill instead of a \$20 bill. Words were exchanged, and a witness said Lee cursed the storeowner. Both Judge and the witness said Lee put his hand in his pocket before Judge fired, but there was no evidence Lee had a weapon.

Originally charged with murder, although placed under only \$1,000 bond on the shooting charge before the victim died, Judge eventually pleaded no contest to involuntary manslaughter—the unintentional killing of a person without malice. He could have received an

active sentence of 10 years in prison.

In suspending the defendant's sentence, Judge John Webb of Wilson took into consideration the fact that the plea and the conditions were agreed to by the prosecutors, one of whom represented Mrs. Lee privately. The widow told the judge she wasn't pressured into accepting the \$25,000 to compensate for the loss of her husband. And the defendant's age could have been an additional factor in Judge Webb's decision to suspend the sentence.

Nevertheless, the disturbing thing about this case is the atmosphere that makes this kind of settlement necessary to get any semblance of justice. It's plain that citizen victims and courts alike in North Carolina still have to worry too often about double standards of justice offered both by race and the social or economic standing of defendant and victim in the community.

The \$25,000 must have loomed large to Mrs. Lee in light of the risk of getting nothing if a formal trial had proceeded. But whatever she and her family net from that in the long run, it still puts a low price on human life in North Carolina, black or white.

The News and Observer

"THE OLD RELIABLE"

Published Every Morning In the Year

By The News and Observer Publishing Company

215 South McDowell St., Raleigh, N. C. 27601

Telephone 821-1234

Editor Emeritus .. Jonathan Daniels

Friday, September 23, 1977

Chairman of the Board	Frank A. Daniels
Publisher	Frank Daniels Jr.
Editor	Claude Simon
Managing Editor	Associate Editor
Controller	Robert L. Brooks
General Manager	Melvin Finch Jr.
Production Director	Frank W. Arnold
.....	David Jones
.....	Ray Mims

**The Black Press—
Our Freedom Depends
On It!**

The Carolina Times

[THE TRUTH UNBRIELED]

VOLUME 55 — NUMBER 38

"READ BY OVER 30,000 DURHAMITES"

DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA — SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1977

Joe Judge, The Killer of Charlie Lee Is Free On The Streets Again

WHITAKERS (CCNS) — Joseph Judge is free.

He was sentenced to ten years probation after a guilty plea to the involuntary manslaughter of Charlie Lee.

On April 19th, Charlie Lee, a black farmworker, and his friend walked up to Joe Judge's store in Whitakers, made a purchase, received some change and left. Shortly after, he counted his change, and decided he had been short-changed by the shop-keeper, Joe Judge. He returned to the store to deal with the issue and this time when Charlie Lee emerged from Joe Judge's store, he had been shot. Two days later Charlie Lee was dead.

Joe Judge was charged with the murder and initial reports indicated Judge was charged with murder and released on bail of \$250. Nash County Clerk of Court however told a reporter that Judge's bond was set at \$10,000.

The trial was set for the August term for Nash County Superior Court only to be postponed until last Monday, September 19, when a special session of Court was held and Judge placed on probation.

Judge was tried last Saturday, however, by the People's Coalition for Justice. Shortly after the death of Charlie Lee, reaction to the incident resulted in demonstrations, meetings and eventually the formulation of the People's Coalition for Justice. The emotionally and politically charged situation of Whitakers eventually was to involve a number of people from other areas of the state, primarily Greensboro and Durham.

These were members of the African Liberation Support Committee whose influence now leads the

People's Coalition for Justice. African Liberation Support Committee is in turn lead by another organization called Worker's Viewpoint Organization, a relatively new leftist group whose ranks include a number of experienced activists and organizers.

Under the leadership of Worker's Viewpoint Organization, an attempt has been made to build a mass movement in the Whitakers area around the issue of Charlie Lee's death. The death of Lee, however, is seen as a symptom of greater social ills and these ills, these issues, are the real focus of the leadership of the Whitakers struggle, for ALSC and Workers Viewpoint Organization. What exists can hardly be described as a mass movement at this point, but there is a hardcore [Continued On Page 15]

JOE JUDGE

[Continued From Front Page] of mainly young people committed to following through in their pursuit of justice in the case.

The immediate justice desired depends upon who one talks to and it varies from demands for a fair trial to the hanging of Joe Judge, as was suggested in one of the leaflets handed out by the Coalition.

The high point of the organizing around the case came Saturday, September

17, in what was titled as a people's trial of Joe Judge. Proceedings took place at the Bloomerhill Community Center. A mock courtroom was set up and an audience was empaneled as the jury. During the two hours a parade of prosecution witnesses was called to testify around things from the character of Charlie Lee and Joe Judge to the working conditions in a Greensboro hospital.

The judge in the mock proceedings was Tyrone Alston, a Whitaker's insurance salesman, the prosecuting attorney was Nelson

Johnson, of Greensboro, a member of ALSC and Workers Viewpoint Organization. Joe Judge's defense was provided by Joyce Johnson, who is Nelson Johnson's wife.

Testimony began with a re-counting of the events leading up to the death of Charlie Lee. Witnesses to the good character of Charlie Lee were called as well as the bad character of Joe Judge. The prosecution produced two young black women who testified to sexual overtures allegedly made to them by Joe Judge. Two witnesses said Judge had also threatened them with guns and had also gone as far as to pinch whip them.

Still more anti-Judge testimony came in the form of Judge's criminal record of

flam-flam, larceny, and a number of other charges of which he had been convicted.

The mock trial, however, involved another kind of witness — witnesses whose purpose was to show a common thread of exploitation and protest between various groups and locations. In this vein, a textile worker from Greensboro talked about exploitation and organizing and a young man from Mebane talked about police harassment and about his picking up the gun in his own defense. Once the proceedings were finished, the gallery found Joe Judge guilty by acclamation. The people's trial did not resemble at all what happened in the state courts, but the fact that it happened surely had effects upon the trial's

outcome.

Part of the plea bargain arranged with Judge Joseph Wells, who presided over the case, was a \$25,000

settlement for Ms. Leola Lee, Charlie Lee's widow. She is to be paid \$12,500 at the sentencing and the remainder in one year plus interest.

THE CAROLINA TIMES — 15

SAT., SEPT. 24, 1977

GREENSBORO DAILY NEWS

Since July 18, 1909

GREENSBORO, N.C., TUESDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 20, 1977

Fifteen Cents

A16 Greensboro Daily News, Tues., Sept. 20, 1977

Plea Puts End To Slaying Trial

WHITAKERS (AP) — The trial of Joe Judge, the elderly white shopkeeper charged in the slaying of black farmworker Charlie Lee, ended abruptly Monday when Judge pleaded no contest to a reduced charge of involuntary manslaughter.

Superior Court Judge John Webb of Wilson said the plea was agreed upon outside court in a plea bargaining negotiation between defense attorneys and Dist. Atty. Frank Brown.

Judge was given a 10-year suspended sentence and ordered to pay \$20,000 to Lee's widow, Mrs. Leola Lee.

THE ASHEVILLE CITIZEN

Dedicated to the Upbuilding of Western North Carolina

108th Year . No. 263

Asheville, N. C. 28802, Tuesday, September 20, 1977

AP, AP Wirephoto

Murder Trial Ends With Plea Bargain

WHITKINCH, N.C. (AP) — The trial of Joe Judge, the elderly white scopelicker charged in the slaying of black farmer Charles Lee, ended abruptly Monday when Judge pleaded no contest to a reduced charge of involuntary manslaughter.

Superior Court Judge John Wells of Wilson said the plea was agreed upon outside court in a plea bargaining negotiation between defense attorneys and Eric Arly Frank Brown.

Judge was given a 10-year suspended sentence and ordered to pay \$25,000 to Lee's widow, Mrs. Linda Lee.

of a group called Peoples Coalition for Justice, issued a statement condemning the court action.

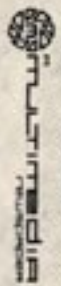
"This trial shows the hypocrisy and injustice upheld by the courts and our entire political system," said Peck, whose group demonstrated outside the courthouse as the trial got under way. "The district attorney, judge, lawyers, police and everyone concerned with the case know it wouldn't go before the jury."

Law, 66, reportedly was killed when an argument erupted over correct change from a purchase in judge's store last April 17. Judge, 73, claimed he fired in self-defense.

Pruthi and others staged demonstrations in protest when Judge's bond was set at \$100,000.

THE ASHEVILLE CITIZEN, Tuesday, Sept. 20, 1977 is

SECTION TWO



1970-1971
1972-1973
1974-1975
1976-1977
1978-1979
1980-1981
1982-1983
1984-1985
1986-1987
1988-1989
1990-1991
1992-1993
1994-1995
1996-1997
1998-1999
2000-2001
2002-2003
2004-2005
2006-2007
2008-2009
2010-2011
2012-2013
2014-2015
2016-2017
2018-2019
2020-2021
2022-2023
2024-2025
2026-2027
2028-2029
2030-2031
2032-2033
2034-2035
2036-2037
2038-2039
2040-2041
2042-2043
2044-2045
2046-2047
2048-2049
2050-2051
2052-2053
2054-2055
2056-2057
2058-2059
2060-2061
2062-2063
2064-2065
2066-2067
2068-2069
2070-2071
2072-2073
2074-2075
2076-2077
2078-2079
2080-2081
2082-2083
2084-2085
2086-2087
2088-2089
2090-2091
2092-2093
2094-2095
2096-2097
2098-2099
2100-2101
2102-2103
2104-2105
2106-2107
2108-2109
2110-2111
2112-2113
2114-2115
2116-2117
2118-2119
2120-2121
2122-2123
2124-2125
2126-2127
2128-2129
2130-2131
2132-2133
2134-2135
2136-2137
2138-2139
2140-2141
2142-2143
2144-2145
2146-2147
2148-2149
2150-2151
2152-2153
2154-2155
2156-2157
2158-2159
2160-2161
2162-2163
2164-2165
2166-2167
2168-2169
2170-2171
2172-2173
2174-2175
2176-2177
2178-2179
2180-2181
2182-2183
2184-2185
2186-2187
2188-2189
2190-2191
2192-2193
2194-2195
2196-2197
2198-2199
2200-2201
2202-2203
2204-2205
2206-2207
2208-2209
2210-2211
2212-2213
2214-2215
2216-2217
2218-2219
2220-2221
2222-2223
2224-2225
2226-2227
2228-2229
2230-2231
2232-2233
2234-2235
2236-2237
2238-2239
2240-2241
2242-2243
2244-2245
2246-2247
2248-2249
2250-2251
2252-2253
2254-2255
2256-2257
2258-2259
2260-2261
2262-2263
2264-2265
2266-2267
2268-2269
2270-2271
2272-2273
2274-2275
2276-2277
2278-2279
2280-2281
2282-2283
2284-2285
2286-2287
2288-2289
2290-2291
2292-2293
2294-2295
2296-2297
2298-2299
2300-2301
2302-2303
2304-2305
2306-2307
2308-2309
2310-2311
2312-2313
2314-2315
2316-2317
2318-2319
2320-2321
2322-2323
2324-2325
2326-2327
2328-2329
2330-2331
2332-2333
2334-2335
2336-2337
2338-2339
2340-2341
2342-2343
2344-2345
2346-2347
2348-2349
2350-2351
2352-2353
2354-2355
2356-2357
2358-2359
2360-2361
2362-2363
2364-2365
2366-2367
2368-2369
2370-2371
2372-2373
2374-2375
2376-2377
2378-2379
2380-2381
2382-2383
2384-2385
2386-2387
2388-2389
2390-2391
2392-2393
2394-2395
2396-2397
2398-2399
2400-2401
2402-2403
2404-2405
2406-2407
2408-2409
2410-2411
2412-2413
2414-2415
2416-2417
2418-2419
2420-2421
2422-2423
2424-2425
2426-2427
2428-2429
2430-2431
2432-2433
2434-2435
2436-2437
2438-2439
2440-2441
2442-2443
2444-2445
2446-2447
2448-2449
2450-2451
2452-2453
2454-2455
2456-2457
2458-2459
2460-2461
2462-2463
2464-2465
2466-2467
2468-2469
2470-2471
2472-2473
2474-2475
2476-2477
2478-2479
2480-2481
2482-2483
2484-2485
2486-2487
2488-2489
2490-2491
2492-2493
2494-2495
2496-2497
2498-2499
2500-2501
2502-2503
2504-2505
2506-2507
2508-2509
2510-2511
2512-2513
2514-2515
2516-2517
2518-2519
2520-2521
2522-2523
2524-2525
2526-2527
2528-2529
2530-2531
2532-2533
2534-2535
2536-2537
2538-2539
2540-2541
2542-2543
2544-2545
2546-2547
2548-2549
2550-2551
2552-2553
2554-2555
2556-2557
2558-2559
2560-2561
2562-2563
2564-2565
2566-2567
2568-2569
2570-2571
2572-2573
2574-2575
2576-2577
2578-2579
2580-2581
2582-2583
2584-2585
2586-2587
2588-2589
2590-2591
2592-2593
2594-2595
2596-2597
2598-2599
2600-2601
2602-2603
2604-2605
2606-2607
2608-2609
2610-2611
2612-2613
2614-2615
2616-2617
2618-2619
2620-2621
2622-2623
2624-2625
2626-2627
2628-2629
2630-2631
2632-2633
2634-2635
2636-2637
2638-2639
2640-2641
2642-2643
2644-2645
2646-2647
2648-2649
2650-2651
2652-2653
2654-2655
2656-2657
2658-2659
2660-2661
2662-2663
2664-2665
2666-2667
2668-2669
2670-2671
2672-2673
2674-2675
2676-2677
2678-2679
2680-2681
2682-2683
2684-2685
2686-2687
2688-2689
2690-2691
2692-2693
2694-2695
2696-2697
2698-2699
2700-2701
2702-2703
2704-2705
2706-2707
2708-2709
2710-2711
2712-2713
27

Author(s)	Year Published	Journal	Volume	Page(s)
...

0-9 (00000)

The respondent Period is defined exclusively to be the time period for which the respondent is being gathered or that which is reported on and is to be clearly designated.

Category: Miscellaneous

Length of Time in Year	Salary A (\$)	Salary B (\$)
1 Year	\$60,000	\$50,000
5 to 10 Years	\$65,000	\$55,000
11 to 20 Years	\$70,000	\$60,000
21 to 30 Years	\$75,000	\$65,000
31 to 40 Years	\$80,000	\$70,000
41 to 50 Years	\$85,000	\$75,000
51 to 60 Years	\$90,000	\$80,000
61 to 70 Years	\$95,000	\$85,000
71 to 80 Years	\$100,000	\$90,000
81 to 90 Years	\$105,000	\$95,000
91 to 100 Years	\$110,000	\$100,000

[illegible]

Standard and Street Data Price - The Early 10th Edition
Map subscriptions are subject to a 5% Price and Currency
Index Rise

THE NEW CONCEPTUALITY. THE

WINSTON-SALEM JOURNAL



THE EVENING TELEGRAM

VOL. 64 -- NO. 340
16 PAGES

ROCKY MOUNT, N.C. MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1977

PRICE 15c DAILY

THE EVENING TELEGRAM *Local, Area News*

Monday, Sept. 19, 1977-9

Judge Is Sentenced On A Reduced Charge

The murder trial of Joseph Judge, 71, quickly ended today when the white Winstonians here

corner charged with fatally shooting a black farm worker pled no contest to a reduced charge of involuntary manslaughter.

Judge, who allegedly shot Charles Lee, 46, last April in his store, was given a 10-year sentence suspended for three years on the condition he pay court costs, remain on good behavior and not violate any law for three years. He was also ordered to pay \$25,000 to the estate of Lee with half to be paid immediately and the remaining half to be paid within a year.

In a plea bargaining session prior to the opening of the trial at 10 this morning, District Attorney Frank Brown agreed to accept the plea to the lesser charge. The plea was entered into court and the judgment rendered.

Lee's widow took the stand and told Superior Court Judge John Webb that the \$25,000 settlement was acceptable before Webb passed sentence on Judge.

An estimated 15 demonstrators appeared outside the courtroom to continue their protest of the state's handling of the case. Judge's bond was set at \$25,000, a figure which the black demonstrators said was too low for a murder charge.

WINSTON-SALEM JOURNAL

81st Year No. 171

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C., TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1977 ★ ★ ★ ★ 26 PAGES 15 CENTS

Winston-Salem Journal, Winston-Salem, N. C., Tuesday, September 20, 1977—Page 15

Storekeeper Is Sentenced In Killing

NASHVILLE (UPI) — An elderly white storekeeper agreed to pay \$25,000 to the estate of a black farm worker Monday after pleading no contest to involuntary manslaughter charges in the worker's death.

In addition, Joseph Judge, 72, of Whitakers was given a 19-year suspended prison term and was placed on probation for three years.

He was originally charged with second-degree murder in the death of Charles Lee, 42, who was shot April 16 and died April 18. The charge was reduced through plea bargaining.

Judge was accused of shooting Lee during an argument in Judge's store in which Lee claimed he had been shortchanged \$7 by Judge earlier in the day. He died of a bullet wound in the chest.

Judge John Webb of Nash County Superior Court said Judge must pay Lee's estate \$12,500 immediately and must pay the rest of the money, with interest, in a year. He was also ordered to pay court costs.

Dist. Atty. Frank Brown said it was decided plea bargaining was the best way to settle the case after talking with Lee's widow, Mrs. Lencia Lee, other family members and witnesses.

Outside the courthouse, members of a group calling itself the "People's Coalition for Freedom" picketed during the half-hour trial.

"This trial shows the hypocrisy and injustice upheld by the courts and our entire political system," said the group spokesman, Nelson Johnson, when the case ended.

The judge, the district attorney and everyone within the case knew that it would be a short trial with no jury selected. But in order to make some show that justice was being done, a jury was selected for a half hour before the final plea bargaining was done, said Johnson.

THE TIMES

Serving
Davidson
County

Thomasville, (N.C.) Tuesday Morning, September 20, 1977

Price 15 Cents — 14 Pages

Page 1A THE TIMES—Thomasville, N.C., Tuesday Morning, September 20, 1977

Judge pleads no contest to reduced involuntary manslaughter charge

WHITAKERS, N.C. (AP) — The trial of Joe Judge, the elderly white shopkeeper charged in the slaying of black farmworker Charlie Lee, ended abruptly Monday when Judge pleaded no contest to a reduced charge of involuntary manslaughter.

Superior Court Judge John Webb of Wilson said the plea was agreed upon outside court in a plea bargaining negotiation between defense attorneys and Dist. Atty. Frank Brown.

Judge was given a 10-year suspended sentence and ordered to pay \$25,000 to Lee's

widow, Mrs. Linda Lee.

Charles Finch, representative of a group called Peoples Coalition for Justice, issued a statement condemning the court action.

"This trial shows the hypocrisy and injustice upheld by the courts and our entire political system," said Finch, whose group demonstrated outside the courthouse as the trial got under way. "The district attorney, judge, lawyers, police and everyone concerned with the case knew it wouldn't go before the jury."

The Charlotte Observer

Foremost Newspaper Of The Carolinas

(c)The Charlotte Observer, 1977

92nd Year — No. 151

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1977

36 Pages

Price 15 Cents

Please Call Us

Story or picture ideas:
374-7215 8 a.m. to midnight

Classified ads:
377-7474 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Subscriptions or
home delivery assistance:
374-7322
6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Carolinas News

Section

B

25 THE CHARLOTTE OBSERVER Tues., Sept. 20, 1977 ...

Observer Nine Reports

Judge Suspends Sentence

WHITAKERS — Joe Judge, an elderly white shopkeeper charged in the slaying of black farm worker Charlie Lee, pleaded no contest Monday to a reduced charge of involuntary manslaughter.

Superior Court Judge John Webb of Wilson suspended a 10-year prison sentence and ordered Judge to pay \$25,000 to Lee's widow, Leola Lee.

Charles Finch, representative of a group called Peoples Coalition for Justice, issued a statement condemning the action.

"This trial shows the hypocrisy and injustice upheld by the courts and our entire political system," said Finch, whose group demonstrated outside the courthouse as the trial got under way.

Lee, 46, reportedly was killed when an argument erupted over correct change from a purchase in Judge's store last April 17. Judge,

Around The Carolinas

73, claimed he fired in self-defense.

WINNER OF

41

PRESS AWARDS

THE NASHVILLE GRAPHIC

SINGLE COPY

15¢

YEAR \$7.80

★ Published Tuesdays and Thursdays—Serving The Greater Rocky Mount-Nash County Area ★

NUMBER 73

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1977

12 PAGES

Slaying Trial Is Concluded

A suspended sentence on a reduced charge of involuntary manslaughter was handed down Monday in Nashville by Superior Court Judge John Webb in the case of John Joseph Judge, a white service station owner charged in the April gun slaying of Charles Lee, a black farm worker from Whitakers.

Judge pleaded no contest to charges of involuntary manslaughter and accepted a sentence of 10 years in jail, suspended for three years. Also included in the sentence was a \$25,000 restitution to be paid to the Lee family.

After Judge submitted his plea, District Attorney Frank Brown read statements of two witnesses, Joseph Tippett and Milton Bryant of Whitakers, describing the April shooting incident.

The evidence indicated that Judge shot Lee with a

.25 calibre pistol following an argument over change for a \$10 bill.

According to the statements, Lee had returned to the store claiming that Judge had given him change for a \$10 bill when he had given him a \$20 bill.

The statements read that after a verbal exchange, Judge told Lee to "watch his mouth" and ordered him out of the store three times. Lee had reached in his pocket when Judge shot him, the statements said.

Judge was later charged with second degree murder which was reduced to involuntary manslaughter after a plea bargaining agreement was made with the court and attorneys for both sides.

Lee's widow, Mrs. Leola Lee, also took the stand Monday and acknowledged accepting such a plea without receiving pressure.

The involuntary manslaughter charge carries a maximum sentence of 10 years imprisonment. Judge was ordered to pay the settlement and court costs and the weapons turned over to authorities.

During the brief trial, members of the "People's Coalition for Justice" demonstrated on Main Street, protesting the handling of the case.

Apparently dissatisfied with the negotiated settlement, leaders of the group stated the outcome was an example of "justice to blacks" and claimed that Judge had been protected by the police and the courts.

PROTESTORS DEMONSTRATE—Members of the "People's Coalition for Justice" demonstrate on Main Street in Nashville Monday during the trial of Joe Judge, who was given a suspended sentence for involuntary manslaughter in the April shooting death of Charles Lee. (Graphic photo by Lupton.)



September 23, 1977

Dear Mrs. Lee.

Now that the trial is over, we are sure that a tremendous weight has been taken off your shoulders. We were aware of the sadness you were bearing including your father's illness. All of us in the People's Coalition for Justice (PCJ) support your decision to accept the financial settlement. As we have been saying, we think you deserve even more. The news media and a few others are trying to make it appear that we opposed your decision or that your decision was a "sell-out." This is not true! We know that you fought with all your strength for justice. It was with your support that the People's Coalition for Justice was developed. It was in your home that we often met and we were always made to feel welcome. We all marched together in the hot streets of Nashville on August 9th. We have no questions at all about your desire for justice and we support whatever financial compensation you were able to get. We feel that the work of the coalition helped make it possible to get the \$25,000 settlement. In many cases like this in the past, such as the Sandra Dupre case in Scotland Neck last year, the murderer has gone free and the family has got no money settlement.

Although Joseph Judge will pay \$25,000 and he should pay much more, he should not go free. Our view is that Joseph Judge is a murderer, a sex pervert, and menace to the community of Whitakers. He should die for this crime or, at least, spend the rest of his life in jail. This same type of hypocritical justice is what usually happens when a white man (especially with money) kills a black person. That's what happened last year in Scotland Neck, that's what happened several years ago in Ayden, N.C., and that's what happened in Greensboro in 1969. We blame the system for these criminal acts. We blame the system for making it possible for murderers to go free. The People's Coalition for Justice sees it as its duty to expose this injustice and continue to struggle against it. It was clear from the beginning that the political and judicial forces were not interested in justice. Otherwise, Joe Judge would not be free today.

We think that crooked lawyers, the judge and the District Attorney combined with Joe Judge's forces to make you the scapegoat. Spencer never explained that you could have gotten a financial settlement and still have pressed charges for manslaughter. We did not understand the system well enough, so we did not give you clear enough legal advice.

Then the District Attorney put you on the stand to make it look like you were selling out the struggle. They put you on the stand to get people angry with you, not with their crooked system, angry with Charlie Lee's family instead of with the system that lets the murderer Joe Judge go free. These were tricks that Watson must have known about, since Spencer was his lawyer and since Watson wanted you to stop struggling. They knew your spirit and fighting energy were a big factor in the struggle, an inspiration to many. So they figured the best way to hurt the struggle was to make it look like you had sold out. But we know it was a financial settlement you had to take.

Page 2 9/23/77

These were tricks to fool the people, to divide us, and to take the heat off the courts and Joe Judge. But in understanding these tricks we will grow stronger, better able to fight this rotten system.

In addition to the financial settlement, much good has come from the work of the People's Coalition for Justice. Many, many more people have a better understanding of how this crooked system really works to obstruct justice. More people from around the state of North Carolina are in touch with each other and can better organize our struggles in the future. We have all learned a lot about how to fight.

The Coalition will continue its work. We will help Paul and Maldo, who were arrested on trumped-up charges on September 10th. The PCJ will have a meeting this Thursday night, September 29th at 7:30 P.M. at the Bloomerhill Community Center. Paul & Maldo's trial is set for October 4th. After that we are not sure about our exact plans. Whatever is planned, we will keep you informed. We hope that all goes well for you and your family. You have our best wishes and full support.

Yours in struggle,

THE PEOPLE'S COALITION FOR JUSTICE

William Johnson
Shirley Paxton
Paul Brown
Lorena Brown
Hawkins Brown
Blanche Brown
Jones Anderson
Tom Williams
Candy Noble
Lew Nichols
Margaret Bryant
Charles Finch

Durham Morning Herald

FINAL EDITION

DURHAM, N. C., SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1977

130 PAGES

PF

Whitakers Chief Of Police Resigns Over 'Interference'

PAGE 24C

WHITAKERS, N.C. (AP) — A dispute with town officials over what Police Chief C. R. Wyratt called interference with law enforcement has led to the chief's resignation.

Wyratt, 35, who has been chief since February, handed in his resignation Friday. The Town Council and police commission — a council member assigned to oversee the police force — prevented officers from performing their duties, Wyratt said.

"The council said we had to enforce the speed limit on U.S. 301 which runs through Whitakers. The speed limit should have been 30 miles per hour but I

was told not to write any tickets for violations that were not over 20 m.p.h.," he said.

Mayor H. B. Johnson had no response to the allegation but said the council is willing to discuss the matter with Wyratt and the town's three police officers.

Wyratt also complained that R. G. Payne, the police commissioner, had committed a speaking locked issued by one of the officers, William R. Gray Jr.

The ticket was canceled because police officers were out at 1:30 a.m. Sunday writing tickets in front of a church, Payne said.

"He is trying to make something personal out of this," Payne said of Wyratt, also charging, "Wyratt has been neglecting his duties and will not stand to his job."

Wyratt said he also recently had a spot with the mayor.

"The mayor showed me out the case I was a buffable out of town looking for a contract that had expired recently," he said, adding, "That is one of the main reasons I had resigned."

