

General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc.

O. L. SHERRILL, *Executive Secretary*
BAPTIST STATE HEADQUARTERS
603 South Wilmington Street
RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA, 27601

April
18
1968

The Honorable Dan K. Moore
Governor of North Carolina
Raleigh, North Carolina

Dear Sir:

This is to acknowledge your telegram of April 6.

I can appreciate your sentiments in wishing for peace, order and a harmonious relationship between the races.

I do regret, however, that your expression of concern did not come before the tragedy and the resulting violence occurred. If it had, perhaps some of the violent acts which took place could have been averted. Your recent efforts toward better human relations, in other words, would have been more meaningful in the early days of your administration.

Sincerely yours,

O. L. Sherrill
S/ac

RECEIVED
APR 19 1968
GOVERNOR'S
OFFICE

*Human
Relations*

April 24, 1968

Dr. O. L. Sherrill, Executive Secretary
General Baptist State Convention of
North Carolina, Inc.
603 South Wilmington Street
Raleigh, North Carolina 27601

Dear Dr. Sherrill:

Thank you for your letter acknowledging receipt of my telegram of April 6. The telegram, of course, was in response to the tragic death of Dr. King and was an urging for all men of all races to follow teachings which he espoused.

I do not feel that my action in this regard was out of place or that it was any change of course for my Administration. A major purpose of my Administration has been to improve human relations and to provide greater opportunity for all of our citizens. This principle was one stated in my inaugural address and is one which I have followed. Although much more remains to be done, I do believe we have made progress in these areas.

I will not attempt to enumerate all of the efforts in this regard. I would call to your attention, however, the fact that the Good Neighbor Council has become a statutory body at my recommendation, and that laws have been enacted against the intimidation of any citizen. These included making cross burning on private property without permission of the owner a felony, and increased the penalties for bombing occupied property. Other programs have included the strengthening of educational programs for all citizens, including the broadening of the community college program and a special \$6,000,000 appropriation over and above regular appropriation for use by the traditionally Negro colleges. Housing, recreation and other programs have been initiated which I feel have had special meaning to lower income families of all races.

Dr. Sherrill, I had not intended to make a defense for my Administration in this letter. I do feel that the record if examined closely will indicate to all North Carolinians that the telegram following Dr. King's death earlier this month was not a change in policy, but rather a continuation of our efforts to

-2-

Dr. O. L. Sherrill

April 24, 1968

provide greater opportunity for all citizens in an atmosphere of cooperation.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

Dan Moore

CD/ec

Copys & booklet in Conf. on
Human Relations sent Sherrill/