

TIMES ADVOCATE

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CHAVIS

NAACP head
sues for payoff

NAACP Executive Director James Chavis prioritized to use as much as \$100 in NAACP funds for a former employee accused him of sexual harassment, and is now being sued for renegeing on a promise, already under fire for leadership of the financially troubled organization, led to the settlement of the knowledge of his directors, *The News* and *The Baltimore* reported today.

"It is a moral fraud," said member Marc Stepp of *The Times*. "The NAACP lawyers denied the harassment allegations and said the woman got the out-of-court settlement by threatening to ruin Chavis' reputation with her allegations."

Chavis' attorney Abbey also said Chavis would fulfill his promise to the woman a job paying \$80,000 a year because she wasn't qualified.

CHISNEROS

Housing secretary
sues former lover

A woman who had an affair with Henry Cisneros, the secretary of housing and urban development, filed a lawsuit against him Friday for fraud and breach of contract.

Medlar's lawsuit said she has stopped making \$1,000 monthly payments as part of a verbal agreement they reached in 1991.

Cisneros and Medlar had an affair when he was governor of San Antonio in the 1980s, according to the

CLAIM: Man says cops were rough

ment gives this account of the incident.

Hodgson was trying to get a refund for a defective tractor engine he had purchased. At one point, during an argument with the store owner, he reached into his pocket and took out the receipt. He also took out a small gun — from the same pocket — and placed both on the counter.

The store owner became frightened and called the police. Hodgson left the store, where he encountered police officers arriving on the scene.

The police ordered Hodgson to place his hands where they could see them, but Hodgson did not immediately obey.

Officers believed Hodgson was being willfully uncooperative. They removed the gun from his back pocket, but then Hodgson refused to allow himself to be handcuffed.

Officers wrestled Hodgson to the ground and handcuffed him. He tried to get up several times and was repeatedly forced down.

At one point, Hodgson complained that he couldn't breathe and asked officers to get his inhaler from his truck. An officer said he searched unsuccessfully for the inhaler, but did find a box of .22-caliber bullets on the front seat.

Hodgson's attorney, Edward M. Fox of Los Angeles, said Hodgson carried the gun with him around his farm and used it to shoot wild dogs. He did not intentionally bring the gun to

the store, Fox said.

Fox also said that Hodgson was not being disobedient — he was partially deaf and could not hear or understand the officers' instructions.

Hodgson was left disfigured from cancer surgery in which an eye, eye socket and part of his cheek bone were removed. When he was thrown down, he landed on the good side of his face, which began to bleed heavily, Fox said.

Hodgson was only trying to get his face away from the puddle of blood, not attempting to flee, Fox said.

"He couldn't breathe," Fox said.

Hodgson's back was broken in the scuffle, and he suffered cuts and bruises to his face, Fox said.

"You just can't do that to somebody, especially somebody in his condition," Fox said.

Hodgson is in physical therapy for the back injury, Fox said.

The police report does not mention a broken back.

Police arrested him on suspicion of attempted robbery, resisting arrest and carrying a concealed weapon. Fox said his client was charged only with carrying a concealed weapon, for which Hodgson was sentenced to 18 months probation.

Hodgson is claiming excessive force, assault, battery, negligence, negligent and intentional infliction of emotional distress, false imprisonment and negligent supervision.

FIRE: Causes damage, but no injuries

Wall of smoke and heat, and so they came back outside, where they were told the girl was away at kindergarten.

A 4-year-old boy and his 17-year-old uncle escaped unharmed after the boy apparently started the blaze while playing with matches, Fire Capt.

Johnson said.

The blaze was confined to the bedroom and a hallway, but the house sustained smoke damage throughout, officials said.

Damage estimates were set at \$15,000 to the structure and \$2,500 to contents.

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