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SCHOOL TO PRISON PIPELINE

The National Conference of Black Lawyers' (NCBL) Michigan Chapter is responding to recently published findings by the American Civil Liberties Union that demonstrate consistent racially disproportionate suspensions and expulsions of black public school students across the state. There is also a demonstrated correlation between exclusion from school and dropout rates. Additionally there is a correlation between dropout rates and imprisonment.

NCBL will continue to investigate and expose the consistent racially disproportionate suspensions and expulsions of black public school students across the country and the correlation between dropout rates and imprisonment. NCBL is gearing up to liberate black students from this "school-to-prison" pipeline by providing advocacy for black students who have been targeted for suspension and expulsion. The chapter hopes to ensure that these students receive constitutionally required due process as they go through the school disciplinary process. They also will take the opportunity to provide these students with guidance in matters related to their education and careers.

NCBL invites you to join in this work and contribute to the development of strategic plans for the challenges as well as opportunities that confront us.

NCBL member Mark Fancher is employed by the ACLU of Michigan and he coordinated this study.

NCBL member Jeffrey Edison is a volunteer member of the ACLU's Racial Justice Work Group, which was the primary advisory group for the school to prison pipeline research.

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