



The New York Public Library  
Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture,  
Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division

Guide to the

**Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee financial records**

1962-1965

Sc MG 899

## Summary

**Creator:** Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (U.S.)

**Title:** Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee financial records

**Date:** 1962-1965

**Size:** 3.96 linear feet (19 boxes)

**Source:** Gift of Sid Lapidus, 2014.

**Abstract:** The Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee financial records consist of accounting and bookkeeping documents mostly from 1962-1964; these documents include vouchers, expense reports, ledgers, receipts, vendor bills, and utility bills. Donor records are filed by state, while most of the utility and vendor bills are from SNCC offices in Alabama, Georgia, and Mississippi. There are a few documents that are not finance-related, including a SNCC brochure, a Yale Civil Rights Council newsletter, a Newsweek article reprint, and staff and supporter correspondence. Various topics and projects are represented, such as voter registration; the Miles College Work Study, a literacy effort; the Freedom Singers, a group who educated communities about civil rights through song; the Arkansas Project, which fought for desegregation in schools and promoted voter registration; and the Council of Federated Organizations, which organized Freedom Summer to register as many Black voters as possible in Mississippi. Several civil rights leaders are featured as well, including John Lewis, Stokely Carmichael, and James Forman, among others.

### Conditions Governing Access:

Materials with personal identifying information have been redacted.

**Preferred citation:** [Item], Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee financial records, Sc MG 899, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division, The New York Public Library

**Language of the Material:** English

**Processing note:** Partially processed ca. 2014; processing completed by Lauren Stark, May 2022.

## **Related Materials:**

Also housed in the Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division:

Betty Garman Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee files, Sc MG 807

Civil rights collection, Sc MG 95

D.C. Area Nonviolent Action Group collection, Sc MG 644

Iris Greenberg/Freedom Summer collection, Sc MG 94

Robert Fletcher civil rights collection, Sc MG 402

## **Creator History**

The Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) was an American political organization that played a central role in the civil rights movement in the 1960s. Begun as an interracial group advocating nonviolence, it adopted greater militancy late in the decade, reflecting nationwide trends in Black activism.

SNCC was founded in early 1960 in Raleigh, North Carolina, to capitalize on the success of a surge of sit-ins in Southern college towns, where Black students refused to leave restaurants in which they were denied service based on their race. This form of nonviolent protest brought SNCC to national attention, throwing a harsh public light on racism in the South. In the years following, SNCC strengthened its efforts in community organization and supported Freedom Rides in 1961, the March on Washington in 1963, the Civil Rights Act (1964), voter registration drives in the South, and desegregation in schools. In 1966, SNCC officially supported the broader protest of the Vietnam War. As SNCC became more active politically, its members faced increased violence, leading the SNCC to migrate from a philosophy of nonviolence to one of greater militancy after the mid-1960s. The shift was personified by Stokely Carmichael, who replaced John Lewis as SNCC chairman in 1966–1967; Carmichael was an advocate of the burgeoning "Black power" movement, a facet of late 20th-century Black nationalism. SNCC was disbanded by the early 1970s.

## **Scope and Content Note**

The Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee financial records consist of accounting and bookkeeping documents mostly from 1962-1964; these documents include vouchers, expense reports, ledgers, receipts, vendor bills, and utility bills. Donor records are filed by state, while most of the utility and vendor bills are from SNCC offices in Alabama, Georgia, and Mississippi. There are a few documents that are not finance-related, including a SNCC brochure, a Yale Civil Rights Council newsletter, a *Newsweek* article reprint, and staff and supporter correspondence. Various topics and projects are represented, such as voter registration; the Miles College Work Study, a literacy effort; the Freedom Singers, a group who educated communities about civil rights through song; the Arkansas Project, which fought for desegregation in schools and promoted voter registration; and the Council of Federated Organizations, which organized Freedom Summer to register as many Black voters as possible in Mississippi. Several civil rights leaders are featured as well, including John Lewis, Stokely Carmichael, and James Forman, among others.

**Arrangement:** Arranged by binder number, as originally received; some items have been moved and some binders consolidated (binders 13-14, 18, and 20), leading to a nonconsecutive order.

## **Key Terms**

### **Subjects**

African Americans -- Civil rights  
African Americans -- Civil rights -- Southern States  
African Americans -- Segregation -- Southern States  
Blacks -- Civil rights  
Civil rights  
Civil rights movements -- Mississippi  
Civil rights workers, Black  
Voter registration  
Voter registration -- Mississippi

### **Names**

Carmichael, Stokely, 1941-1998  
Forman, James, 1928-2005  
Lewis, John, 1940-2020  
Council of Federated Organizations (U.S.)  
Freedom Singers (SNCC)  
March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom (1963 : Washington, D.C.)  
Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party  
Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (U.S.)

## Container List

### Binder 1

- b. 1 f. 1 Address lists
- b. 1 f. 2 Cash bond and traffic violation receipts 1964
- b. 1 f. 3 Expenses ca. 1963-1964
- b. 1 f. 4 Financial reports and correspondence 1963-1964
- b. 1 f. 5 Vouchers and receipts 1964
- b. 1 f. 6 Office correspondence and federal employment tax forms 1963-1964
- b. 1 f. 7 Selma-related conference receipts 1964

- b. 2 Binder 2, medical bills by patient last name 1964

### Binder 3

- b. 3 f. 1 Checkbook and receipt book 1963
- b. 3 f. 2 Ledger sheets by organization name 1964
- b. 3 f. 3 Ledger sheets by state 1964
- b. 3 f. 4 Receipts 1963-1964
- b. 3 f. 5 Payroll checks 1964  
Originally located in binder 20.

### Binder 4, travel expenses

- b. 4 f. 1 Airlines (Delta, Eastern, Ozark, and United) 1964
- b. 4 f. 2 Bus (Greyhound and Trailways) 1964

### Binder 5

- b. 5 f. 1-2 Council of Federated Organizations (COFO) expense vouchers and receipts  
1963-1964  
Receipts in folder 2 were originally found in binder 20.
- b. 5 f. 3 Vouchers and receipts spent out of institute petty cash (SNCC and COFO)  
1964
- b. 5 f. 4 Long, Worth receipts 1964

### Binder 6

#### Utility bills

- b. 6 f. 1 Alabama 1964
- b. 6 f. 2 Georgia 1964
- b. 6 f. 3 Mississippi 1964

#### Phone bills

- b. 6 f. 4 Alabama 1964
- b. 6 f. 5 Georgia 1964
- b. 6 f. 6 Mississippi 1963-1964

### Binder 7, Freedom Singers

- b. 7 f. 1 Expense reports and receipts 1964
- b. 7 f. 2 Royalties 1963-1964

### Binder 8

- b. 8 f. 1 *Contributions and donations by state, made through The Nation newsletter*  
1963-1964

Binder 8 (cont.)

- b. 8 f. 2 Miles College work study project 1963-1964

Binder 9, Arkansas Project expense reports and receipts

- b. 9 f. 1 1964 August-October
- b. 9 f. 2 1964 November-December

Binder 10, Worker expense reports

- b. 10 f. 1 A-D 1964
- b. 10 f. 2 G-He 1964
- b. 11 f. 1 Ho-L 1964
- b. 11 f. 2 M 1964  
Originally located in binder 13.
- b. 11 f. 3 N-W 1963-1964  
Originally located in binder 13.
- b. 12 Unidentifiable individuals 1964  
Originally located in binder 14.
- b. 13 f. 1-2 Receipts and vouchers, unable to match with worker expense reports 1962-1965  
Originally located in binder 18.

Binder 11

- b. 14 f. 1 Vendor invoices, Georgia 1964
- b. 14 f. 2 Postage expenses and receipts, Georgia and Mississippi 1964
- b. 14 f. 3 Various receipts 1964  
Originally located in binder 20.

Binder 12

- b. 18 f. 1 Petty cash vouchers and receipts 1964
- b. 18 f. 2 Financial reports and receipts, Mississippi office 1963-1964
- b. 18 f. 3 Loan vouchers 1964
- b. 18 f. 4 Requisition forms 1963-1964

Binder 15

- b. 15 f. 1 SNCC brochure
- b. 15 f. 2 Yale Civil Rights Council newsletter
- b. 15 f. 3 *Newsweek article reprint* 1964 February 24  
Correspondence
- b. 15 f. 4 Supporters 1963-1965
- b. 15 f. 5 Staff 1963-1965

Binder 16

- b. 16 f. 1 First annual financial report 1964 May 28
- b. 16 f. 2 Bank statements and checks 1963-1964
- b. 16 f. 3 Petty cash 1964
- b. 17 Binder 17, Photograph department, expense reports and receipts 1964

Binder 19, Expense receipts and reports

- b. 19 f. 1 Brown, Tom 1963-1964
- b. 19 f. 2 Lafayette, Bernard 1963-1964
- b. 19 f. 3 Love, John 1964