

ATLANTA JOURNAL

5-5-81.

## Child slay victims' families discussing lawsuit against FBI

By JONATHAN D. MAYE

Journal Staff Writer

Families of some of Atlanta's child murder victims plan to meet again with attorney Mark Lane to discuss a defamation lawsuit they are considering filing against the FBI.

Venus Taylor, mother of victim Angel Lanier, said Monday that final plans have not been made for any court action against the agency in response to remarks made last month by a Macon FBI agent.

Mike Twibell, special agent in charge of the Macon FBI office, told reporters then that "some of those kids were killed by their parents."

"A lot of the mothers have discussed joining the suit," Taylor said, adding, "(The mothers) will have to make up their own minds and do what they think is right."

Lane, who was contacted by Taylor, reportedly met with at least 10 of the mothers to discuss the lawsuit under consideration.

Shortly after the FBI agent made his comments, Taylor said, she warned that legal action would be taken against the FBI unless a public apology was made or a suspect was arrested within 24 hours.

There have been no arrests in the 26 slayings and one disappearance of young blacks. A police task force that includes FBI agents is investigating the crimes.

Lane, a Memphis lawyer best known for his activities on behalf of conspiracy theories in the assassination of John F. Kennedy, has represented the Rev. Jim Jones, who orchestrated the deaths of more than 900 people in Guyana in 1978, and James Earl Ray, the convicted assassin of Martin Luther King Jr.

Lane was in New Orleans Monday and unavailable for comment.

FBI spokesman Dick Berry declined to comment on the proposed suit.

Berry said agent Twibell is still in Macon and on duty, but he would not say whether any disciplinary action has been taken against the agent.