Last summer, ProQuest created a free open source database of primary source materials related to Black civil rights efforts. This Black History Month, take a look through this curated site to examine Black History at its source, and help guide students and researchers to these important contemporary documents.

Subjects are organized by era...
Each section providing links to landmark legislation & court rulings,

Contemporary Era (1976-2000s)

The election of Richard M. Nixon as president in 1968 and his use of the term silent majority signaled a major shift in American politics at the end of the 1960s. By 1974, SNCC had disbanded and the Black Panther Party was on the decline, and the NAACP lost a major court case in Milliken v. Bradley, when the Supreme Court declared that school systems were not responsible for desegregation across district lines. This category focuses on civil rights legislation and major court cases involving issues of race from 1976 into the 21st Century. More content will be added to this section shortly.

Contemporary Era: Civil Rights Legislation
- Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987
- Voting Rights Act Amendments of 1992

Contemporary Era: Legal Cases
- Board of Education of Oklahoma City v. Dowell (1991)
- Bob Jones University v. United States (1983)
- Fisher v. University of Texas (2016)
- Foreman v. Dallas County (1977)
- Freeman v. Pitts (1992)
- Goldblatt Christian Schools v. United States (1977)
- Grove City College v. Bell (1984)
- Hamilton et al. v. Hampton et al. (1985)
- Martin v. Wilks (1985)
- Mississippi (1977)

as well as other government documents relating to the movement, such as this one regarding police protests in Miami in 1980, available from the Reagan Presidential Library:

On the home page you can find a scrolling list of some of the history’s most seminal works.

For more information or other reference and collection development assistance, call the Reference & Information Desk at Adriance Memorial Library at (845) 485-3445 x 3702 or (800) 804-0092 x 3702.
The Resources section offers a primer on what exactly a primary source is, as well as other tips on how to best understand and utilize such specific materials as legal documents and FBI records. There are also resources for educators looking to provide curriculum to their students.

Check it all out at blackfreedom.proquest.com