

VIA REGISTERED, RETURN RECEIPT U.S. MAIL

September 26, 1997

Mr. Jerrol F. Custer
9920 Saltsburg Road
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15339

Dear Mr. Custer:

I am enclosing with this letter a Federal Subpoena for you to appear and testify before the Assassination Records Review Board regarding your knowledge of events related to the autopsy conducted on President Kennedy on November 22-23, 1963. Although the date currently scheduled for your appearance is _____, we would be happy to arrange another date (or time) that would be more convenient for you. Once we confirm the date and time, we will be pleased to send you transportation tickets and a *per diem* witness fee.

We regret that it appears a subpoena is necessary, but unfortunately we have been unsuccessful thus far in our efforts to discuss these matters with you. It is important that you understand this is not an adversarial proceeding, but is a fact-finding exercise that attempts to clarify and complete the record of the President's autopsy. Our role is to be a neutral, unbiased body whose primary function is to locate records and to complete the record of the autopsy by attempting to resolve questions regarding the X-ray records of the autopsy in the National Archives.

We trust that you, like the many other observers who already have testified, will cooperate with our attempt to clarify as much as is possible about the events of November 22-23, 1963. Some of our prior witnesses had not been allowed to testify before the Warren Commission or the House Select Committee, and have thanked us for giving them the opportunity for their recollections to become part of the official record.

The deposition will be conducted at the new Archives II facility in College Park, Maryland, and will involve viewing the original autopsy materials (i.e., photographs and x-rays). The deposition will be conducted in a discreet setting, in a small conference room with only a court reporter, and some members of the Review Board staff who are well acquainted with the medical evidence and issues in the case. Although you are fully entitled to bring an attorney with you, no witness thus far has chosen to do so. After the deposition, we will mail to you the draft transcript so that you will have

Mr. Jerrol F. Custer
September 26, 1997
Page 2

an opportunity to review it for errors and make corrections before the final version is printed.

Please call Mr. Doug Horne of our staff, collect, at (202) 724-0088, sometime between September 30 and October 6, inclusive, so that we can arrange for your transportation and to confirm that the date is as convenient for you as possible. We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

T. Jeremy Gunn
General Counsel

Enclosure