

Dallas Field
JFR

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FREEDOM OF INFORMATION APPEAL

Mr. Benjamin Civiletti
Acting Deputy Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
Washington, D.C. 20530

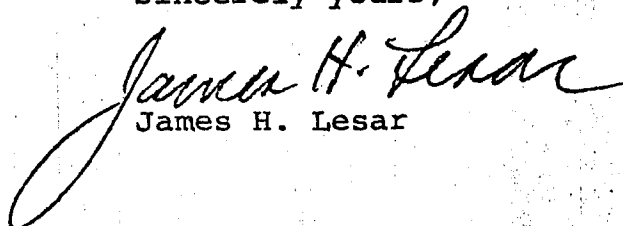
Dear Mr. Civiletti:

I have requested that the FBI's Dallas Field Office provide my client, Mr. Harold Weisberg, with copies of all records on or pertaining to the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. (A copy of my December 25, 1977 request is enclosed.) In reply Mr. James A. Abbott, Special Agent in Charge of the Dallas Field Office, states that he has referred Mr. Weisberg's request to FBI Headquarters. (A copy of Mr. Abbott's December 30, 1977 letter to me is also enclosed herein.)

Mr. Weisberg's request is for copies of Dallas Field Office records pertaining to the assassination of President Kennedy, not Headquarters records. Therefore, Mr. Abbott's reply is at best evasive. Accordingly, I am treating it as a de facto denial of Mr. Weisberg's request for Dallas Field Office records and I hereby appeal that denial to you.

As you are no doubt aware, it has been revealed that an FBI Agent assigned to the Dallas Field Office destroyed records pertinent to Lee Harvey Oswald and the assassination of President Kennedy. In view of this, I trust that you will take all appropriate steps to ensure that no more records pertaining to President Kennedy's assassination are destroyed pending compliance with my client's request.

Sincerely yours,


James H. Lesar