

Ms. Katherine A. Mazzaferri, Ex. Dir.  
D.C. Bar Assn.  
1426 H St., NW  
Washington, D.C. 20005-2184

7/5/85

Dear Ms. Mazzaferri,

For the past several days, while a Rule 60(b) motion based on new evidence is being retyped, I've been thinking about copies I should send because the cost of xeroxing and postage is significant when one is past 70, unwell and lives on \$356 monthly from Social Security. I had decided against sending you a copy because it is more than apparent that neither your nor the bar is at all interested. But I've changed my mind and I'll enclose a copy.

From your silence I presume you did not bother to read what I sent before now. So I should assume that you will not read anything I send now. And I do.

My work has been a study of the workings and failings of the major institutions of our society in that time of great stress and thereafter. I'm not pursuing any whodunit. The inevitable conclusion, if one has any knowledge of fact at all, is that all our institutions and all our protections failed the nation. Including, from the time of their service on the Warren Commission, the lawyers.

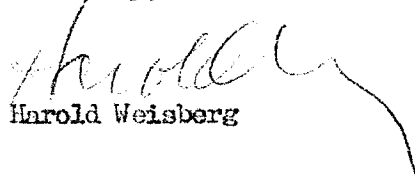
All my records, some 60 file cabinets of them now, will become an open archive of the Wisconsin Historical Society, including the records of my litigation. I think it will be helpful to scholars of the future for them to have a succinct and comprehensible summary opinion which they can then evaluate and pursue independently, the bar association after the strange performance of its top officials at the time of the Warren Commission, when they'd been selected by the chief justice ostensibly to look after the rights of the also-assassinated accused assassin. And did the exact opposite.

It is, I think, clear that the DC bar has neither the principle, the courage, the integrity nor the honesty to do anything at all about serious transgressions quite possibly including felonies by government lawyers and it is apparent to anyone at all familiar with their record in my FOIA litigation that serious if not also culpable misconduct is their norm.

The bar characterizes itself, I think, by its unwillingness to police itself, as most of us think it is supposed to do. By its tolerance of the abuses I've documented, without even pro forma denial, the bar, in effect, becomes part of them. If the bar is content to leave such a record, so am I. I think it may help the nation, at least scholars, to understand how the incredible that did happen was able to happen.

History tells us, and I am ~~back~~ a third the age of the United States, so I can look back on a fair amount of history, that each such failure has been prelude to disaster. Each time something else is perceived as more important than clear duty in a free and representative society. So I'm sorry for all of you cowards to whom something else is more important than doing what you should do.

Sincerely,

  
Harold Weisberg