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Law Enforcement Officers Association of Texas

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION — SOUTHWESTERN LAW

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PHONE WA 4-3215 AREA CODE 817

FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76110

January 15, 1968

Jesse Curry
Chief of Police
Dallas Police Department
Dallas, Texas

Dear Sir:

I wrote you a letter on December 13th, however I decided that anything that I might say at the time would be very anti-climatic, so I decided to give it up as a bad gesture. After talking to some of your good officers at the annual Dallas Police dance Friday night, I decided that I should let you know my feelings regarding the assassination of President Kennedy and the resulting abuse heaped upon you and your department.

When expressing my feelings on this matter, I feel that I am expressing the feelings of most every peace officer in this state as well as in our nation. We all realize that this terrible thing could have occurred in any city in the United States and all fair minded citizens realize that your department, as well as all other law enforcement agencies, were doing everything possible to protect our President.

The subsequent killing of Oswald was certainly a very unfortunate thing to have happen within the Dallas police department. Those of us in law enforcement realize the terrific amount of pressure that is often applied by members of the news media. To those who have offered ridicule in the handling of Oswald, I have maintained that the news media was largely responsible for his being shot due to their insistence that "they be in on every move made". I have talked to news reporters (newspapers, radio, T.V.) and every one that I have talked to have told me that the news media should accept much of the blame for the death of Oswald. You and I know that this acceptance will never come to pass although I sincerely believe that the news media would enhance its stature in the public eye if they would sometimes admit that they are wrong and accept their responsibilities as they insist that other people do.

Chief, you know, and I know, that it is always the cranks and chronic critics of police that "put their two-bits in first". They need not know the facts. They need only an opening to jump down our throats. We can be thankful that people of this type are in the minority but it is these people who would twist this terrible act in such a way that it reflects a disservice to a City, State, Nation or some segment of our population. Those who have been so ready to heap abuse upon the good city of Dallas and its police officers are guilty of fostering bigotry and hatred and the good Lord knows that we have had far too much of this in recent years.

Pledged To Better Law Enforcement