

July 1, 1966

REC-42 62-109060-4138

SI-123

Dr. John Nichols
Associate Professor of Pathology
University of Kansas Medical Center
Rainbow Boulevard at 39th Street
Kansas City, Kansas 66103

Dear Dr. Nichols:

In response to your letter of June 27th, with enclosure, I can assure you that the FBI has not issued either an instruction or a request that certified copies of the death certificate of President John F. Kennedy not be released.

Since another Government agency may be able to be of assistance to you, I am referring your communication to the Director, United States Secret Service, Washington, D. C.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John F.

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COMM-FBI

1 - Dallas - Enclosures (2)

Reur telephone call 7-1-66 advising that by mutual agreement between the Secret Service, the State Department of Health and the Public Health Department of the City of Dallas the file containing the death certificate of President Kennedy has been flagged with an instruction that all requests should be screened so that copies of the death certificate will be issued only to the family or an authorized representative of the family. This confirms the above information and the fact that Mrs. Maurine Hamm, Registrar of Vital Statistics, City of Dallas, has assured you that she will not indicate in the future that the FBI had requested this document not be released.

See Note next page.

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Dr. John Nichols

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NOTE: Correspondent and Mrs. Lamm are not identifiable in Bufiles. In order to resolve the question as to the authenticity of the statement made by Mrs. Maurine Lamm, Registrar of Vital Statistics for the City of Dallas, to the effect that the FBI had instructed that certified copies of the death certificate not be issued, the Dallas Office was telephonically contacted. SAC J. Gordon Shanklin telephonically advised 7-1-66 that the FBI definitely had not made any such request, but that the Secret Service in Dallas had suggested that a more restrictive policy be adopted since a great number of copies of the death certificate had been issued to people who were in turn selling them. This was in August, 1965. On August 17, 1965, Secret Service Agent Kenneth J. Wiseman at Austin, Texas, contacted W. D. Carroll, State Registrar of Vital Statistics, State Department of Health, concerning this matter. Subsequently, by mutual agreement between state and city authorities and the Secret Service, the file was flagged with a notation that all requests should be screened so that the death certificate would be issued only to the family or an authorized representative of the family. A memorandum concerning this matter was prepared by Dr. Hal J. Dewlett, Director of Public Health, City of Dallas. Mrs. Lamm, Registrar of Vital Statistics, was on leave when the Secret Service Agents came around and when she saw the notation flagging the file she erroneously assumed that the FBI had made the request. She advised the Dallas Office yesterday that she definitely will not make such an assumption in the future concerning this matter. Copy of incoming referred to Secret Service. ~~by source.~~

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