

% 1314 N. Harvard Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90027
May 26, 1986

Ms. Diane Nixon
Chair, RFK Materials Advisory Committee
Federal Archives and Records Center
24000 Avila
Laguna Niguel, CA 92677

Dear Ms. Nixon:

Now that the Mayor's Advisory Committee on the RFK Assassination Investigation Materials has begun its deliberations, I have two important early procedural suggestions to make. The first is that all meetings of the committee be public, beginning at once, except for any time which may be needed to discuss clearly confidential information or material. The materials generated or made use of by the committee should likewise be available, with the same limitation. I believe it would be very poor practice, and damaging to the committee's credibility, for important public decisions on these matters to be arrived at through a closed process. Such a policy would also seriously limit the ability of interested parties to make constructive inputs to the committee's work.

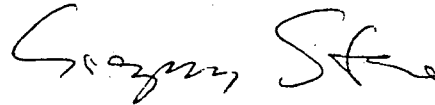
My second suggestion is that initial opportunity for public testimony or appearances on these matters be scheduled as soon possible. As the committee begins to approach the substantive consideration of disclosure questions, early input from interested scholars or other parties should be important. This is particularly true in view of the exclusion of significant outside or scholarly involvement in the practical work which went into the redaction of the 1500 page summary report on the case. The enlistment of meaningful academic or broader consultation on these matters, promised by the L.A. Police Commission at several points, did not take place prior to March 4. As the critical issues of disclosure and access are addressed by the current committee, close and informed attention to these matters, drawing on relevant assistance, is essential to wise decisions.

Past substantive recommendations of parties who have been active on these matters are voluminously available in the correspondence and testimony over the past two and a half years, all of which is on record. This material is foundational with respect to many of the pending issues. (For myself, apart from the formal Police Commission sessions, I note especially communications last August 4, November 23 and February 12, and to Mayor Bradley's office on March 17 of this year.) Like others, I have additional specific points to make in connection with the information which has become avail-

able since March 4, including threshold issues about the conformance of future redaction work to accepted and effective disclosure practices. I believe that these and other significant factors should be canvassed by the committee early on so that all relevant considerations are in view.

Please let me know of any help I can provide on any of these matters.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Gregory Stone". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Gregory Stone