

Dear Jim, Lesar

*John Livingston*

1/22/75

Thanks for the copy of Wayne's Pacific News story as it appeared in the Fairfax (Va.) Globe of 1/8.

Great stuff!

I got quite a kick out of Bob's modesty and Wayne's catering to it.

So Bob, who is "defense counsel," not one of counsel, has broken the news and the State's back with his new evidence, eh?

I suppose you could call it the subtler practice of criminal law and the most effective way of being "defense counsel" to know a man for 30 years and not have interviewed him at all for your case.

I'm amazed at Wayne and wonder what he is up to in this because he knows both were my work, both Chesney and McDermott. Of course the modest Bob does, too.

The part I like best, though, is the close, where Bob is in the pulpit again and concludes that his duty is "not to play Perry Mason."

I remember those words very well.

They, too, are mine - to Bob - to shut him up!

In fact, "Perry Mason" since then has been the code I've used for Bob that Jimmy has correctly understood.

They both seem to have some trouble understanding McDermott's very simple words that it was in the end he was right.

But when you've broken the case and written a book on it, do little matters like these make any difference?

Thanks again. It made my day!

Best,