November 2, 1971

Dear Harold,

I sent you the three cases from the Court of Criminal Appeals which bear on Ray's right to an evidentiary hearing. Did you get a copy of Guy v. State from anyone? If not, I'll send you a copy. (This is the case that Jimmy's fellow inmate dredged up just before the last hearing.) I have just filed Tyler and Harrison and Guy with the Court of Criminal Appeals as a supplement to our brief and argument.

Enclosed is a copy of a letter from a Mr. Raymond Benton to me. You may remember that some time ago I showed you a copy of a letter he had attempted to send to Jimmy but which came through us instead. In addition, I received a phone call from him Sunday. (His reply to my letter came airmail special delivery about two days after I wrote him.) His chronology is somewhat askew and he is probably mistaken about the whole "occurrence". But he is not an obvious nut and there are a few things that can be checked out. He is supposed to do some of the checkin g --on the date of his arrest for drunkeness and on the statement he says he left with Canale's office.

If and when you get to N.O. one minor thing you might do for us is to get a copy of whatever briefs have been filed with the U.S. District and Circuit Courts on the Shaw perjury matter. I would like to have copies for my files on the legal proceedings and also to get a view of the competency with which the appeal is being pursued. Under the Berger court in particular only a very simple argument need be made in order to strike down federal interference in a criminal prosecution at the state level; in fact, it is nigh impossible to lose. But there are a couple of recent cases bearing pretty directly on this issue and Garrison's staff ought to either know or have discovered them, though in light of past performances I'm a bit wary of such assumptions.

I mentioned to Bill some of your problems with Outerbridge and Dienstfry. He seemed interested in that one and does know lawyers in New York who could handle it. The sum involved is probably enough to interest some lawyers on a commercial basis. If it is possible to avoid arbitration, better do it, as it is a rather expensive process. I imagine your most immediate problem is finding out whether or not they have any assets. I think you should either write Bill, sending a copy of the contract along, or else come in to talk with him some time.

On the stuff Finley sent on Percy, I have one additional observation. Why put a hood's wife on the stand even if is only in a bond hearing? The questions which were asked should have been anticipated.

We'll be putting out a new issue of our Newsletter soon. Do you want us to say anything about Post-Mortem?

Best regards,

Jim