

1/8/75

Dear Karen,

Thanks for your kind comments about Frame-Up.

It may not always show, but I try for all my work to be that thorough. It, all of it, not just Frame-Up, has survived for that reason. Frame-Up, of course, has withstood court testing, has led to precedent, and will lead to justice without further corruption. Which is by no means impossible.

Perhaps this is a good point in your career for you to learn that lawyers are almost never this thorough. Most often the reason is cost. In criminal cases in particular they can't be repaid for the time it takes. There generally is not the money for a good criminal investigation and there is no such thing as professional political investigators.

I know of no criminal case in which any lawyer has invested the time Jim Lesar has put into the Ray case, whether or not the lawyer was paid, as Jim has not been and cannot be.

It is this combination, plus Jim's willingness to learn and his open-mindedness, that has enabled the successes to date, including the precedent - unless the Supreme Court takes the case and then overturns.

Although he is just starting practice, Jim is one of the few authentic experts on the Freedom of Information law. (You will be able to see some of how we worked together in getting the transcript if you read the new book with care.) Neither of us now has a booking agent and neither has made any speeches in some time, but if your school is ever interested in a talk on this law and how it works and how it was corrupted, either of us, from different perspectives, could make it. Jim would be fine on the law in particular and the subject in general. We are, in part, responsible for the amending of the law, too. (My suit for the spectrographic analysis: Congressional Record 5/30/74.)

You are right. The young people have to become involved.

My own belief, which I hope does not come across as some kind of male chauvenist piggery, is that the country needs more women lawyers willing to be activists and willing to specialize in criminal law. I think nature gave women special attributes and qualities that can survive education and the roughness of life and will leave them with more compassion and understanding. While women are not a minority, I think also that women and minorities have a special need for more women lawyers.

I have asked Jim to get a set of the pleadings in the Ray case together to lend you if you should want to borrow them. I have a full set but only one. You can, of course, read these here and the FOI stuff, too.

We have a spare room, whenever you want to come. But you should decide before you do what interests you most because the material is simply enormous.

You have a good year, too!

Best,

1/5/75

Dear Harold,

Glad to hear that your auto accident had no injuries. I just got a car of my own and now I'm just waiting for some nut to come along and put the first dent in it. Now that I don't have to ask to borrow the car, I hope to come down to see you in the near future and to look over some of your books and documents.

My classes for the coming term should prove both interesting and useful. Besides two courses in rhetoric, I'm taking a course in Communications Law, where we'll be dealing with things like the Freedom of Information Act, and a course in Evidence, where one of the things to be discussed is the JFK assassination and the "controversies" surrounding it. Now there's a class I should be able to contribute something to!

I just finished reading Frame-Up. Nothing I could say would adequately express how much it impressed me. The incredibly thorough research and investigation made it the most powerful book I've ever read. In the very least it's proof that the "judicial system" works better in theory than in practice and that seeming advances, like the Freedom of Information Act, often turn out to be only words written to placate an unknowing public. I've read an awful lot on political assassinations since my interest in them started two years ago, but it wasn't until I finished reading Frame-Up that the enormity of the conspiracies and cover-ups actually scared me. It's now very clear to me that the problem we're facing goes far beyond a bum rap for Ray or some "unsolved" murders. These conspiracies, which indeed make Watergate look like a second rate burglary, have dealt possibly fatal blows to this country. What makes it even worse is that unless the truth is brought out and the people are convinced that it is time to act, it can and probably will happen again. I think that's what makes the work that you, Jim Lesar and others are doing so important and why it is necessary for people like me, who were really quite young when the assassinations happened, to become involved and to prevent the investigations from dying down.

I hope you have a good year. Don't get in any more accidents, that could be hazardous to your health!

Best regards,

Karen