

March 14, 1976

Mr. Perry A. Chapdelaine
Route 4, Box 137
Franklin, Tennessee 37064

Dear Perry:

I was out of town all last week, so your letter of March 9 arrived while I was gone. I just got back today.

I'm willing to submit to a deposition, written interrogatories, or to testify in person.

Coming to Nashville does present somewhat of a financial and time problem to me. For the last several years my expenses have exceeded my income, largely because of the immense amount of time consumed by my work on the Ray case and several lawsuits related to the assassination of President Kennedy. This situation is very unfair to my wife, who has been supporting me, and I am trying to change it. However, it will probably be several months yet before I begin to earn more money than I spend. I do have several suits which could earn me money, but I have not been able to file them yet because of time pressures.

In view of this, I think it would be best if you could suggest that cross-examination be initiated by written interrogatories and then, if this proved inadequate, I could either be deposed or brought down to testify.

There is a possibility that I may be in Nashville in the not too distant future to talk with James Earl Ray. By that I mean sometime in the next month or two. I'll let you know as soon as any decision is made. I think that any such trip is likely to be made on too short a notice to take a deposition. However, there are a few matters that I should explain to you or your attorney, including some actions taken by Haile which were not in the affidavit I sent you. I have a few suggestions to make concerning discovery you may want to make on Haile and questions to ask him if you depose him or when he is on the stand.

You may want to suggest that depositions of me and Harold Weisberg be taken here in Washington, D. C. If you can afford to come, you could kill at least two birds with one stone that way. I rather suspect Haile would vigorously object to coming up here to take our depositions.

Incidentally, in federal court depositions can be taken by tape recording rather than by stenographer, which cuts down the costs considerably. Whether you can do this in a Tennessee state court, I don't know.

Enclosed is a copy of my letter to Judge Hardin.

Sincerely,

Jim Lesar