

Dear Les,

Payne, Newby

1/9/85

The enclosed will, I hope, speak for itself. I cannot be sure because it is a retyped hurried first draft. I think you will perceive that if I had a lawyer, which I do not (conflict of interest with Mesar, created by DJ and fink judge, the one who ruled against Bernard Lee re the King records) he'd hardly dare say what I have. If he expected to continue to practise law.

The precedent adverse to the interests of those who have pro bono lawyers and to those lawyers is, I think, apparent and part of that kind of Reaganite campaign. And, I can see the end of FOIA for practical purposes in this.

This is what I saw coming a year or so ago and phoned you about. You said you were interested but when I phoned back a couple of time you apparently had changed your mind.

I had to hurry this up not because I was out of time because I still have a week or so but because for the past 10 days I've been weaker and because Lil is also having some medical problems. And I wanted to get it off my back so I can at least make an effort to do other things.

With this as precedent the government can drive even the wealthiest corporations and their expensive counsel up walls of frustration and great costs. It is not a menace to the poor only. I think there has been some GOP duplication in the recent appeals court panels on my cases and I'm pretty sure that the two GOPs on this, Malcolm Wilkey and and Reaganite name Scalia, are from Justice. The department, that is.

If you are interested, I'm usually home from my daily therapy by 10:30 but if this reaches you Thursday, Lil had a medical appointment that morning and we won't be home until about 1:30 or so.

I hope you are all well, as happy as the kind of world we live in permits, and have a good year.

Best,