

12/30/73

Dear Al and everyone,

Sorry about the delay in writing to thank you again and to send the check for the \$20 you let our nephew have. He did ask for more than the minimum. I have learned one reason: he got a ticket going up there because he did not have enough to pay the entire toll on the Jersey turnpike.

He did get home that night. I have not heard from him. I suspect he is deep in one of those sorry-for-myself moods that generally lead to nothing good.

The emotional problems of his generation are, I fear, a bit more severe and more numerous than those of earlier generations. If this does not excuse wrongdoing, it helps understand that not all of it is by bad people.

His mother must be close to the end of what she can take. I suspect there are very few who would have tolerated as much.

We are happy that you were willing to house up your Xmas day looking for the kid as we are unhappy that it was this day and took you away from your family on it.

Thanks to you all!

On other things, a young lawyer has been trying to get my files back from Manny. He tells me that Manny has fled, with the people with whom he had office space having no idea where he went and wondering if they'll get back the rent money he still owes them. Nice mess.

I did get the settlement you knew I was working on, the case where you were with me in the DA's office. The bank has all of it and our debt is that much less!

When I could and did handle this by myself, does it tell you enough about the lawyers to whom I turned for help and got none?

I don't have time to go into the crazy day business now. It is added to all the other things that kept me too busy. I have done a few things that show signs of perhaps turning this around and maybe doing some good. It will take time to know.

If you see anything in the New York papers on this, it might be good to have clippings. Now I am NOT asking you to get all the papers every day or anything like that. All I mean is if as you go over the papers as you normally do. The Post in Washington has had only one story to date. It may cool for a while, unless they go ahead and transfer him, which would be illegal. That I think we could help get some attention.

It would deserve it!

Nothing else really new. What you and Joe knew I was working on is getting ahead slowly. I can't work as fast as I could if I had money to spend so everything takes much longer. If I don't like to move and learn so slowly, there is always something else to do, I don't waste my time, so it is not any special problem.

Again all our thanks. We hope you are having a good holiday, that the coming year is better than I have any reason to believe our Watergater-in-Chief will permit, and that since you can't saty away, you win more!!!

Sincerely,

Please tell me what the phone and your other costs were so I can send you a check to cover those costs, too