

September 1, 1976

~~Mr. Gary Crane~~
Ro Tab Farm
2314 East Alta Vista Road
Phoenix, Arizona 85040

Dear Mr. Crane:

On August 16, 1976, we received a copy of your letter to Congressman Florio dated August 4, 1976, concerning the autopsy photographs of deceased police officer J. D. Tippit. We are advising the Congressman that your inquiry will be handled pursuant to the Freedom of Information/Privacy Acts (FOIPA).

An exceedingly heavy volume of FOIPA requests has been received these past few months. Additionally, court deadlines involving certain cases of considerable scope have been imposed upon the FBI. Despite successive expansions of our staff responsible for FOIPA matters, substantial delays in processing requests continue.

Since January 1, 1975, the FBI has received a total of 24,972 FOIPA requests. Of these, our present backlog is 8,530. In an effort to deal fairly with any request requiring the retrieval, processing and duplication of documents, each request is being handled in chronological order based on the date of receipt. Please be assured that your request is being handled as equitably as possible and that all documents which can be released will be made available at the earliest possible date.

We are now beginning to work on requests which we received during November, 1975.

Your patience and understanding will be appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Clarence M. Kelley
Director

SEP 3 - 1976
FBI - DALLAS
Simbling

1 - Assistant Attorney General for Administration - Enclosures (3)
Attention: FOIPA Administrative Unit (Room 1134)

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(1) - SAC, Dallas (FOIPA Info)

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO.

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Mr. Gary Crane

NOTE for SAC, Dallas:

In reference to the telephone call between SA Gemberling and SA [REDACTED] of the Laboratory, the attached is being handled as an FOIPA request.

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