U. S. Secret Service -- Protective Information Guidelines

Commission No.

1106

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The United States Secret Service is charged by Title 18, U. S. Code, Section 3056, with the responsibility of protecting the President of the United States, the members of his immediate family, the President-elect, the Vice President, or other officer next in the order of succession to the office of President, and the Vice President-elect, together with a former President, at his request, for a reasonable period after he leaves office.

Effective liaison with other law enforcement and intelligence agencies of the Federal Government is necessary to insure that we receive information on individuals or groups of individuals which pose a potential threat to the safety of the Chief Executive and others for whose protection the Secret Service is responsible. Likewise, it is essential for law enforcement and intelligence agencies to know what types of information should be furnished.

Basically, the Secret Service should be furnished with any information coming to the attention of an agency of a threat to physically harm the President, or others named above, or to cause him or them embarrassment, whether it is by an individual or a group or organization.

Beyond the basic type of information -- a threat to harm or embarrass -- three factors must be considered in determining what other types of information are desired. The three factors are:

- 1. Interest of the individual or organization.
- 2. Capabilities of the individual or organization.
- 3. Activities of the individual or organization.

The interest of the individual or organization is the prime factor to be considered in the criteria but must be coupled with the capability and activity of the individual or organization in any determination for referral to the Secret Service.

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The interest must be toward the President, or others named, or other high government official in the nature of a complaint coupled with an expressed or implied determination to use a means, other than legal or peaceful, to satisfy any grievance, real or imagined.

After the interest phase of the criteria is met, then the activity, which encompasses previous history (i.e., mental instability, history of violence) and the capability of the individual or organization for furthering this interest will dictate whether the case should be referred to the Secret Service.

In making referrals to the Secret Service, it is requested that the agency furnish all pertinent background information relating to each of the three-factor criteria.

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