

Mark Zaid
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9/7/89

Dear Mark,

Thanks for the Dallas press conference. Mine is misfiled somewhere or was stolen.

I did read your paper soon after I got it and I annotated it a little as I read.

Much of my time recently has been taken up with other matters and this was and now is largely out of mind. I did not yet give it to Wood on the chance that you'd be here sometime and we could go over it if you'd like.

Without going over it again now, when I do not have that time, I have a clear enough recollection for some general comments.

It was immediately apparent that despite your assurances that you'd take my cautions seriously you didn't and as a result have many mistakes that reflect ignorance of the dependable literature and dependence upon the nutty stuff, the conspiracy theorising and the irresponsibles. As a side product you have some serious errors, some factual, some judgemental. If you'd turned this paper in to a professor who is familiar with the subject matter, like several who teach assassinations course, you'd not have gotten a good grade and you might have been criticised harshly.

I'm an older man and, as we get older and sometimes do -not that younger people don't - I formed some snap judgements of you as a person. First is that you are bright, next that you can be industrious. But I also believed that I perceived some things that can be deadly, ruinous, for a practising lawyer.

One example, aside from your approach and your manner with and handling of the material, is your uncritical acceptance of the irresponsible writing. That you could do this reflects both poor judgement and a gimmicky concept with which I believe you began. You didn't change it and there is no reflection of your even thinking about the cautions I gave you. It begins with your own rush to judgement.

You have and I think you reflect an exalted opinion of your own intellect and knowledge. You are quite bright. But you do not reflect this in your writing except as you come across as one who believes he knows all there is to know. Your paper could and would impress those who do not have the knowledge required to judge it properly but you'd have real trouble with, say, "r. Wrons.

If as a lawyer you tried to pull something like this with an intelligent adversary you'd be in real trouble. So would your client be.

One who uses a good intelligence would at least appear to be more humble in his approach and manner and he would begin with the assumption that there is, inevitably, much he does not know. There always is.

While you are young you'd best try and control yourself and what you reflect of yourself. As I perceived immediately what you reflect in your paper, other lawyers will when they oppose you. And some judges, too. And perhaps above all, you'll be well advised not to project a know-it-all image, and arrogance of mind.

I'm serious. I'm not saying these things to offend you and I'd not take time for anything like that. You are bright enough and willing to work hard enough to have a fine future, to be a real success. But unless you can get yourself under real control you may ruin fine prospects and find yourself in real trouble as a lawyer. And you may turn your peers off. In addition, I suggest that it is bad tactics to project this kind of image in the courtroom. It is much better for the other lawyer to think you are not all that bright, not all that informed. And for a really bright one ^{not} to see how he can do you in. One other bit of unsolicited advice: your professor, when you do the coming paper, will likely know little about the subject matter and just might try to find out if you are fair, accurate, use good judgement, present the work of others as your own, etc.

Good luck!

ifa 10/4

September 1, 1989

Dear Mr. Weisberg,

It was good to hear from you again. Law school is going well. I have never had this much work before, but I am managing to keep up to date and still have time for other pursuits. I have finally gotten a hold of the Batchelor exhibit which lists all of the DPD members and will proceed to check the Dallas phone book in an attempt to locate as many of them as possible. I also intend to sit down and complete a possible outline of what I want to actually write. I have already mentioned this paper to my legal writing & research professor and she thought the idea was fascinating. I hope to find a professor who will serve as my mentor on the project. I will keep you updated as things progress further. By the way, I will definitely be talking to the Dallas A.G. for their opinions on the case.

I think that it is great that you will include my paper with your records at Hood College. I find it a great honor. I have also given a copy to my library at the University of Rochester. I hope that it will be a help to someone and that they take the opportunity to discuss with me any questions they might have. If you ever do get an opportunity to look it over, I would be extremely interested in your opinions.

As requested I have enclosed a copy of the Parkland Press Conference of 11/22/63. I just recently received a tape of Lee Harvey Oswald's radio interview on the Fair Play for Cuba organization and was very impressed by his handling of the discussion. He definitely does not sound like the uneducated person the WC tried to make him out to be. Have you any idea if Gary Mack is still publishing CoverUps?

I hope all is well and I look forward to hearing from you soon. All the best.

Mack