

Richardson's Guidelines for Watergate Prosecutor

WASHINGTON, May 17—Following is the text of the guidelines for a special Watergate prosecutor released today by Elliot L. Richardson, Attorney General-designate:

Duties and Responsibilities of Special Prosecutor

The special prosecutor—There will be appointed by the Attorney General, within the Department of Justice, a special prosecutor to whom the Attorney General shall delegate the authorities and provide the staff and other resources described below.

The special prosecutor shall have full authority for investigating and prosecuting offenses against the United States arising out of the unauthorized entry into Democratic National Committee headquarters at the Watergate, all offenses arising out of the 1972 Presidential election for which the special prosecutor deems it necessary and appropriate to assume responsibility, allegations involving the President, members of the White House staff, or Presidential appointees, and any other matters assigned to him by the Attorney General.

In particular, the special prosecutor shall have full authority, with respect to the above matters, for:

—Conducting proceedings before grand juries and any other investigations he deems necessary;

—Reviewing all documentary evidence available from any source, as to which he shall have full access;

—Determining whether or not to contest the assertion of "executive privilege" or any other testimonial privilege;

Grants of Immunity

—Determining whether or not application should be made to any Federal court for a grant of immunity to any witness, consistently with applicable statutory requirements;

—Deciding whether or not to prosecute any individual firm, corporation or group of individuals;

—Initiating prosecutions, framing indictments, filing informations, and handling all aspects of any cases within the jurisdiction (whether initiated before or after his assumption of duties), including any appeals;

—Coordinating and directing the activities of all Department of Justice personnel, including United States attorneys;

—Handling relations with all Congressional committees having jurisdiction over any aspect of the above matters.

In exercising this authority, the special prosecutor will have the greatest degree of independence that is consistent with the Attorney General's statutory accountability for all matters falling within the jurisdiction of the Department of Justice. The

Attorney General will not countermand or interfere with the special prosecutor's decision or actions. The special prosecutor will not be removed from his duties except for extraordinary improprieties on his part.

Staff and Resource Support

1. **Selection of staff**—The special prosecutor shall have full authority to organize and select his own staff of attorneys, investigators, and supporting personnel, on a full or part-time basis, in such numbers and with such qualifications as he may reasonably require. He may request the Assistant Attorneys General, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Attorneys, and other officers of the Department of Justice to detail such personnel and to provide such other assistance as he may reasonably require. All personnel in the Department of Justice, including United States Attorneys, shall cooperate to the fullest extent possible with the special prosecutor.

2. **Budget**—The special prosecutor will be provided with such funds to carry out his responsibilities as he may reasonably require. He shall have the right to submit budget requests for funds, positions, and other assistance in the same manner as existing divisions of the department.

3. **Designation and responsibility**—The personnel as-

sembled by the special prosecutor shall be known as the Watergate Special Prosecution Force and shall be responsible only to the special prosecutor.

All Other Duties

Continued responsibilities of Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division—Except for the specific investigative and prosecutorial duties assigned to the special prosecutor, the Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Criminal Division will continue to exercise all of the duties currently assigned to him.

Applicable departmental policies—Except as otherwise herein specified, the special prosecutor will be subject to the general regulations and policies of the Department of Justice.

Public reports—The special prosecutor may from time to time make public such statements or reports as he deems appropriate, and shall at the end of his assignment publish a full report on the carrying-out of his responsibilities.

Duration of assignment—The special prosecutor will carry out these responsibilities, with the full support of the Department of Justice, until his assigned tasks have been completed or until a date mutually agreed upon between the Attorney General and himself.

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