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**Subject:** Trask

Richard Trask is the author of Pictures of the Pain: Photography and the Assassination of President Kennedy, which was published in 1994. As you will recall, Mr. Trask was a witness at the Board's Boston public hearing in March 1995. In writing his book, Trask has made probably the most exhaustive and credible study of the photographic history of the assassination. Pictures of the Pain is a detailed account of all of the photographers (both professional and amateur), their photographs and their cameras, who took photographs before, during and after the assassination. Recently, the Sixth Floor Museum retained Trask to complete an edited paperback version of his book that focuses on the cameras used by assassination photographers. Although Trask personally believes that there is no evidence of a second gunman, through his work he has gained the respect of both single gunman advocates and conspiracy theorists; certainly a rare feat. A significant section of Trask's book is devoted to the Zapruder film. Virtually every aspect of the film is discussed, including what it depicts, what happened to it after the assassination, and issues related to its authenticity. Trask's value as a witness is that he can contribute a sober and careful analysis of the importance of the Zapruder film. Because he has done such an exhaustive and comprehensive study of the photographic record of the assassination, he can put the historical value of the Zapruder film in context for the Review Board and for the record. He can discuss the original film's value as both a historical photographic artifact and as a necessary part of the JFK Collection because the actual original is better quality (or can be the foundation for the creation of some technically enhanced version) than anything else. For the Board's information, Trask told me in a recent telephone conversation that he believed the film was so historically significant that the Zapruder family should simply donate it to the United States government. He stated that he thought the Zapruder family had already made enough money off of the film.

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