

April 12, 1996

Harold Weisberg
7627 Old Receiver Road
Frederick, Maryland 21702

Re: Your Request for Deposition Transcripts of Drs. Humes and Boswell

Dear Mr. Weisberg:

I have reviewed your March 17, 1996, letter in which you requested that the Review Board send you the deposition transcripts of Drs. Humes and Boswell.

The Review Board is eager to disclose these transcripts to you and to the American public. However, as you know, we are engaged in an ongoing inquiry to determine the location of additional records related to the assassination of President Kennedy. At the present time, we need to keep our leads confidential as we continue our work. We hope that the principal part of our medical work will be complete by the end of this year and that we can release the transcripts in full at that time.

The Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA") provides two exemptions for this material pending its release to the public. The transcripts are being withheld because they have been found to be intra-agency memorandums or letters which would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency exempt from release under 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(5). In addition, we are investigating the possible destruction of records and the accuracy of prior statements and so the transcripts of the depositions of Drs. Humes and Boswell were compiled in part for law enforcement purposes, and are exempt under the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(7)(A).

If you consider this response to be a denial of your request under the FOIA, you have the right to appeal our determination within 30 days. Appeals should be addressed to David Marwell, Executive Director, Assassination Records Review Board, 600 E Street, N.W., 2nd Floor, Washington, D.C. 20530.

Sincerely,

Laura Denk
Freedom of Information Act Officer