

October 13, 1995

Mr. Dale N. Atkins
Clerk, Civil District Court of New Orleans
421 Loyola Street, Room 402
New Orleans, Louisiana 70112

Dear Mr. Atkins:

By way of introduction, the Assassination Records Review Board (ARRB) is an independent federal agency created to oversee the identification and release of records related to the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

The ARRB was established by the President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act of 1992 (PL 102-526) and was signed into law by President George Bush. The law gives the ARRB the mandate and authority to identify, secure, and make available all records related to the assassination of President Kennedy. I am enclosing a copy of the act and some explanatory material.

The scope of the Review Board's mandate includes assassination-related records in the custody of federal agencies, local and state government entities, as well as those in the private sector. In the course of reviewing many of those records we have determined that several court cases were filed in the Civil District Court for the Parish of Orleans in the late 1960s. The Review Board is mandated by Congress to include the court records from those cases in the John F. Kennedy Records Collection.

As you will see from reading the enclosed legislation, Congress expressed a clear preference for original records. Where originals are not available, we would appreciate receiving photocopies.

Will you please conduct a search of your closed files and notify us when you locate the following files:

- 1) Docket Number 199-944 filed sometime between July 7, 1967, and December 1, 1967.
- 2) Docket Numbers 199-177, 199-978, and 199-979, all filed sometime before December 1967.

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We will be happy to arrange for shipping of the files to Washington at our expense. In the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at ext. 229 and leave a voice mail message.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation and assistance with this matter.

Sincerely,

Anne Buttimer, Esq.
Chief Investigator

Enclosures