

September 18, 1995

Sent by facsimile (504/389-5032) - Hard copy to follow by US Mail

Sheriff Elmer B. Litchfield  
East Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff's Office  
P.O. Box 3277  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821

Dear Sheriff Litchfield:

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 by US Mail; the facsimile portion will contain the explanatory material only.

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 identifying and locating assassination-related records, Deputy Sheriff Leonard Spears' name came to my attention. Deputy Spears was apparently a member of your department at the time of President Kennedy's assassination. After the assassination WDSU television in New Orleans aired a film-clip of Lee Harvey Oswald and another man distributing pro-Castro leaflets on a New Orleans sidewalk in the summer of 1963. Deputy Spears apparently thought he recognized Oswald's companion in the film-clip as James Farlow McCurley. Some of the paperwork about this found its way into the State of Louisiana's official report on the assassination, which eventually became part of the Warren Commission Report. The pages concerning Mr. McCurley were excised and were not published by the Warren Commission.

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I need to locate the report Deputy Spears wrote and am hoping that your office may have a copy of it (or even the original). I am also interested in speaking with Deputy Spears if possible.

I will be in Louisiana next week and would like to make an appointment to speak with you or a member of your department. I will call you later this week to arrange an appointment. Thank you in advance for your time and cooperation with this matter.

Sincerely,

Anne Buttimer, Esq.  
Chief Investigator

Enclosures