

November 28, 1994

The Honorable Scott Harshbarger
Attorney General
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
1 Ashburton Place
20th Floor
Boston, MA 02108

Dear Scott:

A belated congratulations on the election results. It was with great excitement and pride that I heard the final figures. I actually attempted to send you a telegram the day before the election to wish you good luck. As you are probably aware, it never arrived. I have been promised a refund from Western Union. Not only could they find no proof that it was ever delivered, they have not seen the courier who supposedly delivered it since that day! They literally cannot find the guy! We may want to get the A.G. on this matter. At any rate, if I do not get my refund I will be calling George Weber directly.

Back to the race. I wish I could have joined in the victory celebration. I just loved the margin of victory. To hit the 70 percent mark must have been a real thrill. Although I know you can't rest on the election results, it really does mean, at least to me, that a lot of people in the Commonwealth "got it." They understand that you did what you said you were going to do and that business can be done your way.

I was also thrilled by all of the newspaper endorsements, including the Springfield Union News and The Lawrence Eagle Tribune! Who would have expected? I guess their respective "problems" with us were overcome, and perhaps overwhelmed, by the strength of the rest of the record.

Before I forget, I wanted to thank you for the photo of Ed C. I'm sorry he has lost his mind so quickly. I really thought it would take a couple of years. From what I hear, he is approaching the job with an enthusiasm and freshness which we hoped he would bring to the office. He will be part of what I know will be a great second term.

Well, I should tell you a little about my job. Let me put it this way: After work I used to research the Kennedy assassination. Now, I go to work and research the Kennedy assassination, and they pay me. Then I go home and relax with whatever I haven't read yet on the assassination. Sound too good to be true? Well, with the Republicans in power and looking to cut the budget, I fear that it may very well turn out to be too good to be true. The concern is that when the budget for FY 1996 comes up, we may get cut badly. It's all speculation and no one really knows what will happen, but I have told Carrie that I may be home earlier than expected.

Our trip to Dallas for the public hearing was surreal for me. The visit to Dealey Plaza and the Book Depository, after seeing so many photos and reading so much about the site, was a

real mix of emotions. I was excited to be there, but also saddened. To think that a President of
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the United States was killed right there in public, on the streets of Dallas, was very emotional to think about. It was also frustrating to think that after so many years, there are still so many questions. Perhaps we can do something about that.

The media coverage for the Dallas hearing was pretty good. Seven camera crews, including CNN and CBS News, attended the hearing and went on our tour of Dealey Plaza and the Book Depository. In addition, we had the wires, a lot of radio stations, and the Dallas Morning News gave us big coverage. I have already noticed that it will be difficult to garner much additional attention until/unless we force the release of some controversial records. A lot of people in the media simply have no interest in "re-hashing" this "old" story. I'll keep trying, but on the positive side, less time on the media gives me more time on other aspects of the Board's work.

I should note here that it has been a real pleasure working with Jack Tunheim. To me, he is class all the way. And in all honesty, he really is cut from the "Harshbarger cloth." He is "facts and the law" all the way and has been very impressive. I understand why you get along with him.

I have tried to follow everything that is going on in Boston by picking up the Globe and the Herald as often as possible. I really miss being a part of the office. At the risk of sounding too sentimental, I must say that one cannot appreciate what one has been a part of until removed from the situation. What I really appreciate now is that you and your office genuinely help people; really help them. With this job, we are fulfilling the Board's mandate for history and the integrity of government, and to me it is important. But, we do not help people get their houses back or help the elderly get their stolen money back. Hopefully, we will foster more openness in government and restore some confidence in government, but our impact, whatever it ultimately is, will be more remote. Thus, I guess what I miss most is the knowledge that at the end of the day at the A.G's office you could be pretty sure that we had a positive impact on someone's life in Massachusetts.

I will not close with any words of wisdom for your second term, except to say that I believe that "the lost generation" can be saved, and I know you will do great things to ensure that is the case. Congratulations on your overwhelming victory. I wish you well in the second term. I hope to talk to you soon when you have a little time. Please be nice to your staff at all times!

Sincerely,

Tom S.

