

The original documents are located in Box 3, folder “Clemency - Chestnut, Jack (2)” of the Philip Buchen Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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Memorandum

DATE: September 6, 1973

TO : Archibald Cox
Special ProsecutorFROM : Thomas F. McBride
Associate Special ProsecutorSUBJECT: 18 U.S.C. Section 610 Prosecutive Policies and
Prosecutive Memoranda

The purpose of this memorandum is to recommend policies and criteria to guide the use of our discretion in prosecuting individuals and corporations responsible for illegal corporate contributions in violation of 18 U.S.C. Section 610. It does not address prosecutive policy with respect to recipients of corporate contributions.

Section 610 makes it unlawful for:

1) a corporation or a labor organization to make a "contribution or expenditure in connection with" any Presidential or Congressional election, including primaries or other nominating processes; 2) a candidate, political committee, or other person to accept or receive such a contribution or expenditure. The statute explicitly provides for prosecution and punishment of both the corporate or labor body and its officers or directors. The maximum punishment for a non-willful violation by a corporation or labor organization is a \$5,000 fine. The maximum punishment for a non-willful violation by a corporate or labor organization officer or by a person who accepts or receives such a contribution is a \$1,000 fine or one year, or both (misdemeanor). A willful violation is a felony punishable by a \$10,000 fine or two years or both. Section 610 does not explicitly require scienter, except for felony prosecutions. (Copy of statute attached.)

I. Prosecutive Policy

In each Section 610 case, the following prosecutive options are available:

Ex. A



1. whether or not to prosecute;
2. whether to prosecute only the corporation, the corporation and the one primarily responsible officer, or the corporation and all officers who consented;
3. whether to charge the corporation or the officer(s) or both with a non-willful misdemeanor violation of the statute, or to charge the corporation or the officer(s) or both with a willful felony violation of the statute;
4. whether or not to object to a plea of nolo contendere by the corporation or the officer(s) or both;
5. whether to bring to the sentencing court's attention factors that heighten the gravity of the offense, bring to the sentencing court's attention mitigating circumstances, or make no statement to the sentencing court;
6. whether to permit the defendant(s) to choose venue (usually his home district) or to file the information or indictment in the District of Columbia and object to any change of venue.

General Considerations

The Department of Justice has not vigorously enforced Section 610 until very recently. The Department proceeded against labor unions in most of these prosecutions. In the labor union cases, the Department has prosecuted union officials as well as the union. See, e.g., United States v. CIO, 335 U.S. 106 (1948); United States v. Pipefitters, 407 U.S. 415 (1972) (union officials indicted for conspiracy to violate Section 610). The Department has prosecuted a corporate officer or director in only one very recently filed case, United States v. Andec Corporation. Andec is also the only case where it has prosecuted the recipient of a corporate or union contribution. Finally, we can discover no Department policy governing prosecutorial policy in cases of voluntary disclosure, no doubt because such occasions are unprecedented.



Several important law enforcement policy considerations argue in favor of a firm prosecutive approach to Section 610 cases. The statute, if vigorously enforced, can serve as an effective tool in preventing campaign abuses, in particular, the corrosive influence of large sums of corporate or union money on campaigns, candidates, and office-holders. The Department's past history of virtual non-enforcement has invited widespread violation of the statute. The threat or imposition of individual liability provides the only realistic deterrent to violation of this statute, for the corporate penalties are relatively insignificant. Furthermore, there is a perceptible public demand for enforcement of laws against "white collar" crime, and of Section 610 in particular, which would be frustrated by failure to proceed against responsible corporate individuals in an area of high public visibility. Finally, as a matter of fairness, it would be inequitable to penalize only the corporation's shareholders. Therefore, it is recommended that as a matter of general policy, in all cases which we decide to prosecute, we should charge the responsible corporate executive, absent compelling mitigating circumstances.

This general policy would not violate the Special Prosecutor's policy of mitigation in cases of "early and voluntary" disclosure, since this policy can fairly be fulfilled by exercising the broad opportunities for prosecutorial discretion discussed above. Although imposition of personal liability may deter further voluntary disclosures, the disparate nature of the treatment of volunteers and non-volunteers will remain as an incentive to disclosure, and in any event, at this stage the field of potential volunteers has been substantially diminished.

Specific Recommendations

1. It is recommended that in all cases, we charge the corporation with at least a one-count misdemeanor violation, absent compelling mitigating circumstances. In each case, we should object to a plea of nolo contendere by the corporation. This posture will foster the law enforcement policies outlined above.

2. As already noted, it is recommended that in all instances in which the primarily responsible corporate officer was aware of the operative facts (i.e. that it was a political contribution and that the contribution came from corporate funds), that the officer be charged along with the corporation.



with a violation of 18 U.S.C. 610.

3. It is recommended that in cases of corporate officers who have voluntarily disclosed and been charged, we object to the entry of a plea of nolo contendere except in a few cases of very "early" disclosure, and in those cases, only if no aggravating circumstances militate against accepting a plea of nolo contendere.

4. It is recommended that corporate officers, other than the individual primarily responsible, not be charged unless such other officer played a significant role in the decision to make the contribution, rather than acting in a nominee, messenger or other ministerial capacity at the direction of his superiors.

5. With respect to the misdemeanor/felony option, it is recommended that:

A. In instances of voluntary disclosure, the individual corporate officer(s) not be charged with the felony violation of 18 U.S.C. 610 unless (a) the contribution was made with the clear intention or understanding of influencing some federal governmental action, or (b) the "voluntary disclosure" turns out, as the investigation develops, to be substantially less than a full and truthful disclosure

"Voluntary" should be defined as disclosure to this office of the fact of an illegal corporate contribution, without the corporation or its officers first being contacted by this office, or by a federal agency (F.B.I. or I.R.S.) acting at the direction or request of this office.

B. In instances where the illegal corporate contribution was not voluntarily disclosed, we should in addition to charging the corporation, charge the primarily responsible corporate officer and perhaps other consenting officers with a felony violation of 18 U.S.C. 610 where all or some of the following factors are present to a significant degree, unless the officer's cooperation with the Prosecutor, after commencement of the investigation in connection with this offense and other matters before the Prosecutor, militates in favor of mitigation:



a. Acts of concealment. Examples: Use of unrecorded corporate cash, use of names of false nominee donors, efforts to fabricate a story when faced with the probability of an investigation.

b. Presence or absence of "pressure" exerted by the persons soliciting the contribution.

c. Evidence of specific intent to influence federal governmental action, as opposed to simply being in the general "good graces" of the candidate and his party.

d. Whether any tax consequence adverse to the interest of the United States Government resulted.

e. Past history of making illegal corporate political contributions.

6. It is recommended that in the case of corporate officers who have voluntarily disclosed and been charged with a Section 610 violation, that the Special Prosecutor call to the attention of the court the voluntary nature of that disclosure and represent to the court that that fact could properly be considered as a mitigating circumstance in the court's sentencing considerations.

It is recommended that in the case of the non-voluntarily disclosed corporate contribution, no recommendations be made as to sentence of the individual corporate officer unless the individual has been asked to and has refused to cooperate in connection with the Section 610 matter or other matters under investigation by this office, in which case those circumstances might be called to the attention of the court for consideration in connection with sentencing.



September 6, 1973

SUMMARY

Prosecution

Misdemeanor
Against Corp

Misdemeanor
Against Corp
and Officer

Felony Against
Corp and Officer

Acceptance of Nolo
Contendere Plea
by Officer

voluntary
disclosure

a) voluntary
disclosure

a) voluntary
disclosure

a) voluntary dis-
closure, but
officers have not
fully cooperated
or improper in-
fluence implica-
tions ;

a) voluntary dis-
closure

AND

AND

AND

AND

compelling
mitigating
circumstances

b) officer
lacked know-
ledge of opera-
tive facts

b) officer had
knowledge of
operative facts

b) non-voluntary
disclosure case
without compelling
mitigating circum-
stances

b) very early
disclosure

AND

AND

c) officers have
fully cooperated
with prosecutor

c) full cooperation

AND

d) no improper
influence impli-
cations



LETTERS TO MINNESOTA BOARD
OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
IN CONNECTION WITH OCTOBER
HEARING ON DISCIPLINE OF
JACK L. CHESTNUT



SEP 23 1976

September 21, 1976

C
O
P
Y
Mr. Leonard J. Keyes
Briggs & Morgan
2200 W-First National Bank Bldg.
St. Paul, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Keyes:

This letter is written to you in your capacity as counsel for Mr. Jack L. Chestnut in connection with the current investigation being conducted by the Minnesota State Board of Professional Responsibility.

It is my understanding that this investigation arises out of Mr. Chestnut's conviction in United States v. Chestnut, S.D.N.Y. 74 Cr. 1191. As you know, I was a witness on Mr. Chestnut's behalf at the trial of that case. In addition, during the presentencing investigation, I submitted a letter with seven exhibits for consideration by Judge Weinfeld. I enclose copies of those materials for such use as you may deem appropriate in your current representation of Mr. Chestnut.

As I explained in my letter to Judge Weinfeld, my legal advice was frequently sought by Mr. Chestnut in connection with his management of the Humphrey campaigns of 1970 and 1972. I believe that the materials which accompany this letter amply support my representation to Judge Weinfeld that Mr. Chestnut acted with "extraordinary prudence and caution" in discharging his duties as Senator Humphrey's campaign manager. Moreover, I am still of the view that Mr. Chestnut "is a man of intelligence, ability, character and honor" who has never "knowingly solicited or received any illegal corporate contribution to any political campaign with which he was ever associated."



Mr. Leonard J. Keyes
September 21, 1976
II

C
Even more important, for present purposes, is the question whether Mr. Chestnut's conviction in New York casts any doubt upon his ability to represent clients with honesty and integrity as a practitioner of law in Minnesota. I emphatically believe that no such adverse inference can be drawn from the New York proceeding. That case had nothing whatever to do with the practice of law or with the legal representation of Minnesotans or with the discharge of Mr. Chestnut's responsibilities as a member of the Minnesota bar. I am aware of no evidence that Mr. Chestnut has ever been remiss in these respects; indeed, knowing Mr. Chestnut as I do, I am confident that his performance as a Minnesota lawyer has uniformly been above reproach.

O
In closing, I feel compelled to emphasize how strongly I believe the New York jury verdict on Mr. Chestnut was in error. There was no need for Mr. Chestnut to seek illegal contributions from an organization that could readily have contributed the same amounts in a lawful manner. Moreover, even if a need had existed, Mr. Chestnut is simply not the type of man to have succumbed to the temptation. In short, he is both too intelligent and too honorable to have committed the crime of which he was charged.

P
Y
But, whether or not the New York jury erred, the result of its decision has been to inflict on Mr. Chestnut and his family great emotional distress, embarrassment, and financial loss. Surely this is enough. Nothing in Mr. Chestnut's history suggests the slightest threat to the bench, bar, or citizenry of Minnesota from his continued membership in good standing in the bar of this state. Under these circumstances, the imposition of further sanctions seems neither necessary nor just.

Please let me know if I can provide any further information or assistance.

Sincerely yours,

John D. French

nb

cc: Minnesota State Board of
Professional Responsibility
200 South Robert Street
St. Paul, Minnesota 55107



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MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55402

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May 23, 1975

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JOHN S. STEFFEN
JOHN B. GORDON
THOMAS M. HAVETLE
JOHN M. HINDENBERGER
THOMAS J. MOORE
ROBERT L. SCHNELL, JR.

Honorable Edward Weinfeld
United States District Judge
United States Court House
Foley Square
New York, New York 10007

Dear Judge Weinfeld:

This letter is written to you at the request of counsel for Mr. Jack L. Chestnut in connection with the presentencing investigation currently being conducted in United States v. Chestnut, S.D.N.Y., 74 Cr. 1191.

As the Court is aware from my testimony in this matter, I have been active in Minnesota politics from 1966 forward. During this period, I have frequently served as legal counsel to the Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party of Minnesota and to various of its candidates and political committees. During two separate years (1970 and 1972), my legal advice was often sought and obtained by Mr. Chestnut in connection with political campaigns conducted by him on behalf of Senator Hubert H. Humphrey.

My testimony at Mr. Chestnut's trial described several instances in which I provided legal advice to Mr. Chestnut bearing upon issues that were raised at trial by the prosecuting attorney. However, my testimony did not reflect either the scope or frequency of Mr. Chestnut's requests for legal opinions from me on other campaign questions. Many of these requests were handled telephonically; a few, however, resulted in correspondence. I enclose with this letter, as exhibits 1 through 7, examples of my retained copies of the legal opinions provided by me to Mr. Chestnut at his request. (Among these, only exhibit 6 was presented to the Court as a trial exhibit.)



Honorable Edward Weinfeld

May 23, 1975

II

These letters reflect, I believe, the extraordinary prudence and caution with which Mr. Chestnut approached his duties as Senator Humphrey's campaign manager. Exhibits 1 and 2 reflect the fact that Mr. Chestnut began to seek legal advice in 1970 well in advance of the time when, under Minnesota law, Mr. Humphrey actually became a candidate. Exhibits 1 and 5 represent two of the occasions on which I advised Mr. Chestnut not to undertake a proposed project. In each instance he followed my advice and rejected the proposal.

My close collaboration with Mr. Chestnut in the 1970 and 1972 campaigns demonstrated to me that he is a man of intelligence, ability, character, and honor. While I hesitate to venture any comments that may appear to constitute a collateral attack on the jury's verdict, I nonetheless feel compelled to say that I personally cannot believe that Mr. Chestnut knowingly solicited or received any illegal corporate contribution to any political campaign with which he was ever associated.

I hope you will find this letter and the accompanying exhibits of some benefit to your deliberations.

Sincerely yours,

John D. French
John D. French

nb
Encls.



Confidential
and Privileged

Mr. Jack L. Chestnut
Chestnut, Jones, Brooks,
Kennedy and Burkard
Suite 854, Midland Bank Bldg.
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

Dear Jack:

I am pleased to report that I have been able to assemble a team to assist me in providing campaign legal advice. The group consists of Jim Hale, George Flynn, Jim Dueholdm, and Bruce Burton, all of whom are associates in this office.

I have given consideration to your question about the distribution of Britannica Yearbooks, and, unfortunately, it gives me some concern. First, as you know, the Minnesota Statutes define a "candidate" as any "person for whom it is contemplated or desired that votes may be cast at any election or primary, and who either tacitly or expressly consents to be so considered." (M.S.A. §211.01) This imprecise language has led two Minnesota Attorneys General to conclude that candidacy is a question of fact which may be indicated in any of a variety of ways. (See 1928 Atty. Gen. Op., Nos. 81, 82) The distribution of the 500 Yearbooks might constitute such an indication, thereby triggering candidacy prematurely.



Mr. Jack L. Chestnut

page 2

April 6, 1970

Second, I think there is a risk that the gift of the Yearbooks, especially in a political year and to people who are involved in politics, might ultimately be found illegal. I direct your attention to Engelbert v. Tuttle, 185 Minn. 608, 242 N.W. 425 (1932), in which the court held that various gifts by a political candidate to others did not violate the law because, as a matter of fact, they were not presented with the intent of influencing voters. In other words, the matter was treated as a fact question, and, as you know, it is very difficult to predict how a court or jury will rule on questions of fact. A broadside distribution of Yearbooks to influential and politically active people might easily be held to have been intended to influence voters contrary to law.

In sum, I conclude that the Yearbook project creates substantial risks and I advise that it not be undertaken.

Finally, you have also raised a question about establishing a committee to act as a repository for early contributions. I believe this can be done, but I would like to talk to you about how to structure the committee and its operations.

Sincerely yours,

John D. French

JDF/er



May 27, 1970

Mr. Jack L. Chestnut
Chestnut, Jones, Brooks,
Kennedy & Burkard
Midland Bank Building
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

CONFIDENTIAL AND PRIVILEGED

Dear Jack:

The 1966 campaign report which we discussed at lunch on Tuesday is enclosed.

In reply to your question on financial reporting dates, M.S.A. §211.20, subd. 3, requires every "political committee" to file a statement of receipts and disbursements within 30 days after any primary, municipal, or general election. The rules for filing by the candidate himself (M.S.A. §211.20, subd. 1) (2 U.S.C.A. §246) set up a different timetable, but quaere whether the candidate will have any personal statement to file.

I strongly suggest that someone be dispatched to the state capitol to make copies of all statements filed by the major candidates and their committees in 1966 and 1968, so that we can use them as working models. I think it would also pay to ask Mike Berman for copies of anything Fritz may have filed in Washington, D.C., in 1966.

I want also to confirm my opinion, expressed to you on Tuesday, that the necessary officers of a political committee are a chairman and treasurer. It is most important that these



Mr. Jack L. Chestnut
May 27, 1970

II

people be understood by one and all to have full authority to run the committee; otherwise the committee might be deemed to be the candidate's "personal campaign committee," within Minnesota law, which would be very undesirable. I suggest, in this connection, that the office address of the committee be the suite of rooms on the floor above your offices, so that Mr. Humphrey, in officing with you, is not actually in the committee headquarters.

Sincerely,

John D. French

JDF:nb



July 17, 1970

CONFIDENTIAL AND PRIVILEGED

Mr. Jack L. Chestnut
Chestnut, Jones, Brooks, Kennedy & Burkard
Midland Bank Building
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

Dear Jack:

In reply to your recent inquiry, I direct your attention to M.S.A. §202.09 (subd. 3), which states:

A person who has been a candidate for an office at the primary election in any year is not eligible for nomination for the same office in that year by nominating petition under the provisions of this section, except as provided in subdivision 4 of section 202.08.

The reference to §202.08 (subd. 4) deals only with the situation in which no candidate got enough votes at the primary to be nominated, and this is obviously not going to be a risk in Mr. Humphrey's case.

It therefore appears that a candidate for the Senate who loses in the primary can only run in the general election as a "write-in" or "sticker" candidate.

Sincerely,

John D. French

JDF:nb



August 11, 1970

CONFIDENTIAL AND PRIVILEGED

Mr. Jack L. Chestnut
Chestnut, Jones, Brooks, Kennedy & Burkard
Midland Bank Building
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

Dear Jack:

This is written in response to your request for an outline of the legal requirements governing disclosure of campaign contributions and disbursements.

The Minnesota reporting requirements are set out in M.S.A. §211.20. The "candidate," Mr. Humphrey, must file a verified financial statement with the Secretary of State (a) eight days before the primary, (b) on or before the tenth day following the primary, (c) eight days before the general election, and (d) on or before the tenth day following the general election. Each statement, after the first, must contain a summary of all preceding statements.

Mr. Humphrey's statement must show, "in full detail,"

- (a) every sum of money or item of value received by him during the period, from any source whatever, which he is at liberty to use for political purposes, including the name of the contributor, the date of the contribution, and a total of all contributions;
- (b) a similarly detailed list of pledges;
- (c) a similarly detailed list of disbursements; and
- (d) a similarly detailed list of obligations incurred.



Mr. Jack L. Chestnut
August 11, 1970
Confidential & Privileged
II

The reporting obligations of your "volunteer" committee are quite different from those of the candidate. The committee's obligation under M.S.A. §211.20 (Subd. 3) is simply to file with the Secretary of State, within 30 days after the primary and again within 30 days after the general election, statements "showing the total amount of receipts and disbursements, and for what purpose disbursements were made."

Federal law also imposes financial reporting requirements, but they are less comprehensive. Most important for your purposes is the fact that "political committee" is defined in 2 U.S.C.A. §241 to include only groups working to influence the election of candidates "in two or more states." This means that the federal reporting requirement for political committees (2 U.S.C.A. §242) does not apply to your committee.

The candidate himself must file reports under 2 U.S.C.A. §246 with the Secretary of the Senate (a) "not less than ten nor more than fifteen days before," and (b) "within thirty days after" the "election." (Here "election" is defined to be the general election, and does not include a primary.) The candidate's statement must contain, complete as of the last day prior to filing,

- (a) an itemized account of each campaign contribution received by him or by any person for him with his knowledge or consent, from any source, together with the name of the contributor;
- (b) a similarly detailed record of expenditures; and
- (c) a detailed statement of promises to obtain public appointments for people, or, if no such promise has been made, a specific statement to that effect. The statements required under (a), above, are to be cumulative. Also, the report must include a statement, based on state records, of the total number of votes cast for all candidates for the U.S. Senate at the preceding general election. (Query whether this is the McCarthy election in 1964 or the Mondale election in 1968.

There are also expenditure limits for the candidate himself set forth in 2 U.S.C.A. §248, but these run into thousands of dollars, and I assume that Mr. Humphrey will come nowhere near those figures.



Mr. Jack L. Chestnut
August 11, 1970
Confidential & Privileged
III

With respect to the actual form and contents of the required reports, I suggest that you get copies of the reports filed by Fritz Mondale and his volunteer committee in 1968, both in Washington and in St. Paul. As you may recall, Harry MacLaughlin was the Treasurer of that campaign, and I am confident, knowing Harry, that his reports conformed in all respects to the requirements of the law.

Sincerely yours,

John D. French

JDF:nb



August 14, 1970

Mr. Jack L. Chestnut
Attorney at Law
Midland Bank Building
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

PRIVILEGED AND CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Jack:

In reply to your letter of July 30, 1970, I have looked into the question whether funds of the Teamsters Union could be used to pay for pictures of Mr. Humphrey and have concluded that this would probably constitute a violation of the election laws. In any event, it seems that the revenue to be derived from the project would not merit either the risk or the unfavorable publicity if the scheme ever came to light.

Sincerely yours,

J. D. French
John D. French

JDF:nb

By Hand



January 12, 1972

CONFIDENTIAL AND PRIVILEGED

Mr. Jack L. Chestnut
Campaign Manager
Humphrey for President Committee
1225 19th St., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

Dear Jack:

In your capacity as Campaign Manager of the Humphrey for President Committee, you have asked me several questions concerning the applicability of present federal law to campaign contributions made to or for the benefit of a campaign committee formed to support a candidate for President of the United States. Your questions and my opinions concerning them are set forth below.

(1) Is there any limit, under present federal law, on the dollar amount which an individual may contribute to a presidential campaign committee?

The applicable statute is 18 U.S.C. §608(a) which imposes a limit of \$5,000 per calendar year. However, this statute expressly states that it "shall not apply to contributions made to or by a State or local committee." I therefore conclude that a national campaign committee, supporting a declared candidate for President, may not receive more than \$5,000 per year from any single individual. Conversely however, it is my opinion that a bona fide state or local committee (e.g., a "Pennsylvanians for Humphrey" committee having a chairman and treasurer who actually reside in Pennsylvania) may both receive and distribute contributions without dollar limitation.



Mr. Jack L. Chestnut

January 12, 1972

II

(2) Is there any reporting or disclosure requirement with respect to contributions made at this early stage of the campaign, i.e., while the effort is still being directed toward state-by-state primary contests?

In my opinion, no such reporting or disclosure is required. The disclosure of campaign contributions is covered by the Federal Corrupt Practices Act, 2 U.S.C. §241, et seq. This statute requires disclosures and other procedures, including detailed record keeping, with respect to "elections." However, section 241(a) provides that the term "election" includes "a general or special election, but does not include a primary election or convention of a political party." I therefore conclude that the Act does not require the disclosure of contributions made to your campaign committee for the purpose of influencing the outcome of primary elections or political conventions.

As I have previously indicated to you, the foregoing discussion relates only to present federal law. If, as seems likely, the federal law governing campaigns is amended, we will have to reconsider these questions in light of the new statute. Also, I have not attempted to provide you with any opinion concerning the laws of the separate states. While I doubt that many of them are designed to impact presidential campaigns, in a significant way, I suggest that you obtain legal advice as to the election campaign laws of each state in which Senator Humphrey is running (e.g., in Pennsylvania and Florida) from lawyers in those states.

Sincerely yours,

John D. French

JDF:NB

Envelope Marked "PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL"



February 4, 1972

Mr. Jack Chestnut
Campaign Manager
Humphrey for President
1225 19th Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

CONFIDENTIAL AND PRIVILEGED

Dear Jack:

I enclose with this letter (a) a copy of the opinion in Stern v. United States, 436 F.2d 1327 (5th Cir. 1971) and (b) a copy of a recent announcement by the Internal Revenue Service as it appears in the CCH Tax service.

The Stern case finds that certain political contributions were not taxable gifts. The IRS announcement indicates that the Service will not follow the Stern case except in the Fifth Circuit and will construe it narrowly even there.

As you will see from reading Stern, it rests on a very special set of facts. (See the last paragraph of the opinion for a summary.) The peculiar nature of the facts in Stern, along with the refusal of the IRS to follow it, leaves in doubt the question whether political contributions are taxable gifts. This, in turn, raises the question whether numerous splinter committees may not be needed (as in past years) in order to assure a large contributor of safety from gift tax exposure.

This seems to me to be a sufficiently troublesome problem to merit consideration by the DNC. What do you think?

Sincerely yours,

J. D. French
John D. French

JDF:NB
Encls.



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Telephone
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September 15, 1976

Mr. Walter Bachman, Director
Lawyers Professional Responsibility Board
200 Minnesota State Bank Building
200 South Robert Street
St. Paul, MN 55107

Re: Jack L. Chestnut

Dear Mr. Bachman:

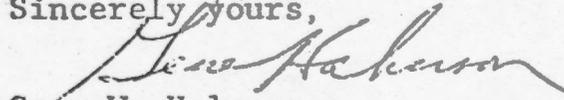
I have been advised by Mr. Leonard Keyes, attorney for Jack L. Chestnut, that the Lawyers Professional Responsibility Board will be considering the Jack L. Chestnut case in the next week or ten days. It is the purpose of this letter to inform you of my views regarding Mr. Chestnut with respect to his license to practice law in this state.

My acquaintance with Jack goes back to when he was a Special Assistant to the Attorney General under now Senator Walter Mondale. I have had occasion to see him from time to time in the intervening years and have had periodic contacts with him both of a professional and personal nature in the intervening period.

I have never known a client to suffer at the hands of Mr. Chestnut and believe that he has represented his clients faithfully and diligently. I was distressed to learn of the proceedings against him in the state of New York, both because of my personal concern for the situation in which he found himself and because of the inevitable unfavorable reflection on the legal profession.

I do not believe that the public interest requires that Mr. Chestnut be barred from the practice of law nor do I believe any individual client would be treated improperly by him if he is allowed to continue to practice.

Sincerely yours,


Gene W. Halverson

GH:ly

cc: Mr. Leonard Keyes



SEP 17 1976

LAW OFFICES

JOHNSON, THOMPSON, KLAVERKAMP & JAMES

A PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

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80 SOUTH EIGHTH STREET

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55402

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September 16, 1976

Mr. Walter R. Backman, Jr.
Executive Director
State Board
of Professional Responsibility
Minnesota State Bank Building
St. Paul, Minnesota 55107

Re: Jack L. Chestnut

Dear Mr. Backman:

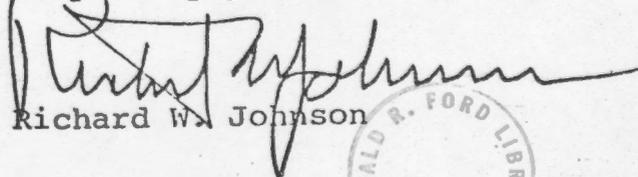
I have known Mr. Chestnut for over ten or twelve years. We have sometimes represented adverse interests and sometimes our respective clients have had similar positions.

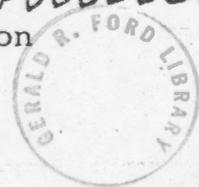
I have found that Mr. Chestnut consciously tries to be accurate and honest in all of his dealings with others. I have also found that Mr. Chestnut, while zealous of his clients' interests, is careful not to be over-reaching. From my observations, over many years, Mr. Chestnut is a competent and ethical lawyer of integrity.

I appreciate the problems of the Board in considering the matter before it. As a member of the Bar, I can only say that it does not appear to me to be in the best interests of the public for Mr. Chestnut to be disqualified from practicing law, either permanently or for a lesser period of time. The publicity which has been generated is sufficient punishment to satisfy justice. The so-called "deterrent effect" has likewise been met. Any lawyer who in the future is willing to hold a like position will be extremely careful to see to it all legal requirements of this very complicated area are met.

I would appreciate the Board being advised of my feelings and observations. If there are any questions I could answer, please let me know.

Very truly yours,


Richard W. Johnson



RWJ:sjs
Leonard J. Keyes, Esq. (St. Paul)

SEP 24 1976

WALTER M. BAKER
WILLIAM G. DALE
CHARLES A. BASSFORD, JR.
RICHARD J. GUNN
GEORGE C. MASTOR
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Law Offices MASTOR and MATTSON, Ltd.

315 PEAVEY BUILDING
730 SECOND AVENUE SOUTH
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55402
TELEPHONE 339-8846 AREA 612

September 20, 1976

Board of Professional Responsibility
200 South Robert Street
St. Paul, Minnesota 55107

Gentlemen:

I first became acquainted with Jack Chestnut in June of 1959 when I was Chief Deputy Attorney General for the State of Minnesota. Jack Chestnut had just graduated from law school, and after an interview I recommended to the then Attorney General Miles W. Lord, that he be hired as Special Examiner. He was so hired, and upon passage of the bar examination in October of 1959 he was appointed the Special Assistant Attorney General and assigned to the Department of Taxation.

When Walter F. Mondale assumed the duties as Attorney General in 1960, Jack Chestnut was assigned to the main office as attorney for a number of state agencies. One of such assignments was to assist the Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture in the enforcement of the Dairy Industry's Unfair Trade Practices Act, and upon leaving the office of Attorney General he was appointed specially by Attorney General Mondale to continue to serve in that capacity. He also served in such capacity under my appointment while I was Attorney General during the years 1964 to 1967.

I have known Jack Chestnut personally and professionally since 1959 and his law firm since its inception in the early 1960's and consider that both exhibit high quality legal services. While his law firm, and Jack Chestnut in particular, has given service to the community in civic and political work these were labors of love and did not affect or diminish the quality of the legal services performed. Jack Chestnut is an excellent attorney with a fine reputation for dealing with all parties in a fair, ethical and honest manner, whether it be in legal or political matters.

I do not consider that removal of Jack Chestnut from the practice of law in Minnesota, even on a temporary basis, would serve the interests of the Bar or the public.

Very truly yours,

MASTOR AND MATTSON, LTD.

By

Robert W. Mattson
Robert W. Mattson

RWM:av
cc: L. J. Keyes, Esq.



SEP 23 1976

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TELEPHONE (612) 291-9333

WRITER'S DIRECT DIAL NUMBER

291-9270

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3750 IDS TOWER

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TELEPHONE (612) 340-5555

September 22, 1976

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ELLEN HIGGINS

OF COUNSEL
DANIEL W. O'BRIEN

State Board of Professional Responsibility
Minnesota State Bank Building
200 South Robert Street
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55107

Re: Jack L. Chestnut

Gentlemen:

This letter is written in conjunction with the forthcoming proceedings regarding the above-referenced attorney in an effort to assist the Board of Professional Responsibility with respect to any proceedings in which it might engage regarding Mr. Chestnut.

I have been involved personally with Mr. Chestnut over the past several years in the antibiotics litigation and am currently involved with him in the folding carton antitrust litigation. I have found him to be a very able practicing lawyer, an excellent administrator and a credit to the profession.

During the course of the several years that I have known Mr. Chestnut, I have found him to be of the highest integrity and no occasion have I found him wanting in any way with respect to his professional conduct.

Sincerely,

Eugene M. Warlich

EMW:sll





UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
TWIN CITIES

Law School
125 Fraser Hall
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55455
(612) 373-2717

September 17, 1976

State Board of Professional Responsibility
200 South Robert Street
St. Paul, Minnesota 55107

Re: Jack L. Chestnut

Gentlemen:

I have known and respected Jack W. Chestnut for many years as a competent and ethical lawyer with a great sense of loyalty to his clients. His prosecution, conviction and the unduly harsh sentence imposed upon him, are most upsetting to those who are acquainted with the facts of his case. It would be tragic if he were made to suffer any additional sanction.

Jack Chestnut has always put himself at the service of his community and his country. Nothing whatsoever would be gained by any interruption of his professional career. I earnestly urge that he be permitted to continue his work as a member of the Minnesota Bar.

Sincerely,

Carl A. Auerbach
Dean

/gl



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DAVID W. LEWIS
OF COUNSEL

L. GLENN FASSETT
(1930-1975)

September 17, 1976

Board of Professional Responsibility
200 South Robert Street
St. Paul, MN 55107

ATTN: R. Walter Bachman, Jr.
Executive Director

RE: Jack Chestnut

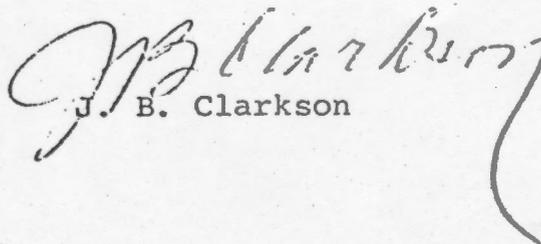
Gentlemen:

I have known Jack Chestnut personally and professionally for many years. In all my contacts with him he has conducted himself personally and as a lawyer in a way which is in keeping with the highest standards of our profession. From the standpoint of ethics, his conduct has always been impeccable.

I followed his trial in New York in the newspapers with a great degree of interest. It is my sincere opinion that had the case been tried in Minnesota, he would have been acquitted.

Under all of the circumstances, I feel that by the publicity which his case has received, Jack Chestnut has already been punished more than deserved.

Very truly yours,


J. B. Clarkson

JBC:bjk



LETTERS SENT TO TRIAL JUDGE
AND U.S. PROBATION OFFICE
AT TIME OF SENTENCING
OF JACK L. CHESTNUT



57796 - RSR/6

ADDRESS REPLY TO
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
AND REFER TO
INITIALS AND NUMBER

RGR/rmc

United States Department of Justice

UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
DISTRICT OF MINNESOTA
506 U.S. COURTHOUSE
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55401

FTS: 612/781-7430

May 23, 1975

RECEIVED

Mr. Ronald S. Rogart
U. S. Probation & Parole Office
207 U. S. Courthouse
Foley Square
New York, New York 10007

MAY 30 1975

U. S. PROBATION OFFICE
CO. DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

Re: United States v. Jack Chestnut

Dear Mr. Rogart:

I am writing this letter without being solicited by anyone. It is entirely a result of my own volition. There will be no blind copy to Mr. Chestnut or to anyone else.

I do not know anything about the facts of the case. I am, of course, aware that a jury found those facts to be sufficient to convict the defendant. I do know something about Jack Chestnut.

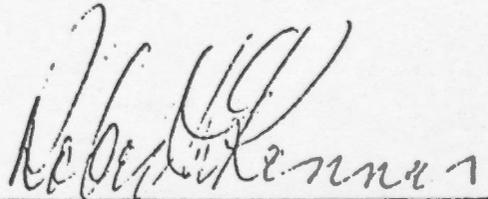
We are of different political affiliations. We have been on opposite sides of law suits. I was a legislator at a time when he was a lobbyist. I have always found him to be a man of honor and have never had cause to question his integrity.

The felony conviction in this state demands that immediate disbarment proceedings be instituted in the state and federal courts. This, of course, has dire consequences to a lawyer.

I do not wish to attempt in any way to suggest to you what your recommendations to Judge Weinfeld should be. I do, however, feel it necessary to indicate to you my high regard for Jack Chestnut.

Should you have any questions whatsoever, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours very truly,



ROBERT G. RENNER
United States Attorney



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Edward Abas
Probation Officer

DATE: June 9, 1975

FROM : Judge Lord

SUBJECT: Jack Chestnut

Dear Mr. Abas:

In response to the inquiry from the Probation Officer in New York, I confirm that Mr. Jack Chestnut was employed by me before graduating from law school and as an Assistant Attorney General thereafter.

He was and is a very outstanding person, of fine character, and I am very surprised to have found him convicted of wilful wrongdoing. That is completely out of character for this man.

I think he is an excellent probation risk.



Miles W. Lord

MWL/mf



5010-108

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan



June 16, 1972

The Honorable Edward Weinfeld
c/o Ronald Regan
U. S. Probation Officer
U. S. District Court
267 U. S. Court House, Room 2042
Foley Square
New York, New York 10007

112/771-0076

Dear Judge Weinfeld:

With respect to the forthcoming sentencing by your court of Jack L. Chestnut for his recent conviction for a violation of the campaign financing laws, I respectfully ask that you take into consideration these comments and observations.

I had known Mr. Chestnut as one of a fairly large number of "adventurers" at the beginning of the 1968 Presidential campaign but one who emerged as among the two or three most competent and reliable of the group. Near the close of that campaign it came to my attention that Mr. Chestnut had made a great personal sacrifice in my behalf at the time of the death of his father, when he remained at his post in a very demanding task of co-ordinating a late campaign visit to Minnesota until everything had been completed that was needed for the success of that visit. It struck me then, and I continue to hold that opinion, that here was a man of extraordinary efficiency, reliability and commitment.

When the time came to select a campaign chairman for my 1970 Senate campaign in Minnesota, it was the unanimous recommendation of my friends and advisors that Chestnut be asked to serve. I knew and he knew at the time that it would put great demands on his time and energy, and yet when I asked him to consider the post, he asked absolutely nothing in the way of assurances, financial or otherwise. He accepted without reservations and without conditions.



The Honorable Edward Weinfeld

June 16, 1975

page 2

To this day I fail to understand why the AMPI officials should have chosen to use corporate checks for financial contributions in 1970 or 1972 when the coffers of their political trust, C-TAPE, were filled with funds legally contributed by AMPI members. I have read that there are still over \$1.5 million in the C-TAPE treasury. It does not make sense to me, it did not make sense then, and I am certain that Mr. Chestnut would not have seen any sense in it in 1970. It was simply inconceivable. And there was no earthly motivation for Mr. Chestnut to have conspired to arrange such an illegal contribution. I am sure he felt that when AMPI was asked to complete its contribution to the 1970 campaign, that the contributions would be made in the regular and normal manner of all previous contributions.

Certainly Mr. Chestnut never intimated to me in any way that he was considering such an illegal arrangement, and he was very careful about keeping me informed as to any difficulties or problems that arose in the course of financing our 1970 campaign. While I was not kept apprised of the day-to-day financing and expenditures of the campaign, I am absolutely confident that Mr. Chestnut would not have considered putting my reputation in jeopardy through such an illegal act.

Sincerely,

Hubert H. Humphrey



57746-RSR/(u)

RUBELL B. LONG, LA., CHAIRMAN	
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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

TOM VAIL, CHIEF COUNSEL
MICHAEL STERN, ASSISTANT CHIEF CLERK

June 5, 1975

RECEIVED

JUN 10 1975

U. S. DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

The Honorable Edward Weinfeld
Judge of the U. S. District Court
Southern District of New York
U. S. Court House
Foley Square
New York, New York 10006

Dear Judge Weinfeld:

I am writing regarding Jack Chestnut.

I have known Jack for more than fifteen years. When I became Attorney General of Minnesota in mid-1960, Jack was a member of the Attorney General's staff having been originally appointed in 1959. I appointed him to serve with me, which he did until June, 1963, as one of six assistant attorneys general, a senior position on the staff. At that time he left my office to enter private practice but continued to serve at my request as a special assistant attorney general on a part-time basis.

During the period of time that he served on my staff, we had a great deal of contact in various circumstances and we have been in continuing contact during the intervening years. In all of my contacts with him, I have never known him to be anything less than completely ethical and honorable in all of his professional and personal activities nor have I ever heard anything from others which would cause me to in any way doubt his veracity, competence or trustworthiness.

I consider him to be a man of high integrity and would be more than willing to be interviewed in Washington as to my judgment about him if you would find this desirable or helpful.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Walter F. Mondale
Walter F. Mondale



LAW OFFICES OF
CRANE, MARTIN, CLAUSSEN, HAMILTON & BARRY

SUITE 900, MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK BUILDING
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TELEPHONE 357-5231
AREA CODE 913

A. HARRY CRANE (1968)
HARVEY B. ASHWORTH (1968)

June 10, 1975

AIR MAIL - SPECIAL DELIVERY

Mr. Ronald S. Rogart
c/o The Honorable Edward Weinfeld
United States Probation Officer
United States District Court
207 U. S. Courthouse, Room 204E
Foley Square
New York, New York 10007

Re: Presentence Report of Jack L. Chestnut

Dear Mr. Rogart:

This letter is directed to your attention regarding Mr. Jack L. Chestnut and his most recent conviction. It is my understanding that you are in the process of gathering information for the presentence report to submit to the Honorable Edward Weinfeld, to be considered for sentencing purposes. It is my desire that my comments herein contained be considered by yourself and the Court and be made a part of the presentence report.

I have been familiar with Mr. Chestnut in a legal capacity since approximately October of 1969. During this time period I have worked with either Mr. Chestnut or members of his firm, both in and out of various court rooms. I first met Mr. Chestnut when we were consolidated in certain multidistrict litigation before the Honorable Inzer Wyatt, Southern District Court of New York, located in Foley Square, New York, New York. Since my initial contact with Mr. Chestnut, I have also worked with him in the Federal District Courts of Minneapolis, Minnesota. My continued professional contacts with Mr. Chestnut convinced me of his legal ability and because of my confidence in him, I have referred clients to him with good results each time. Mr. Chestnut is an active, practicing attorney and, in my opinion, is an asset to the legal community.

I encourage both you and the Honorable Edward Weinfeld to give heavy consideration to the good work this man has rendered to the legal profession. He is an active, practicing attorney and, I believe, can and will make substantial contributions to our profession in the coming years. I would hope and encourage

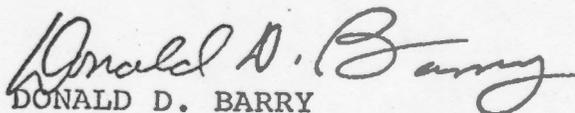


Mr. Ronald S. Rogart
c/o The Honorable Edward Weinfeld
U. S. Probation Officer
207 U. S. Courthouse, Room 204E
Foley Awuare, New York, N. Y.
June 10, 1975
Page 2

the Court to assess a minimal fine and structure its opinion in order that Mr. Chestnut may remain an active, practicing attorney. If I might submit more information or testimony, I will be most happy to do so.

Thanking you for your cooperation in this matter, I remain

Very truly yours,


DONALD D. BARRY

DDB:ae





WENDELL R. ANDERSON
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MINNESOTA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

ST. PAUL, 55155

June 13, 1975

The Honorable Edward Weinfeld
c/o Mr. Ronald S. Rogart
U.S. Probation Officer
207 U.S. Court House
Room 204E
Foley Square
New York, New York 10007

Dear Judge Weinfeld:

I am writing to attest to the character and legal reputation of Jack L. Chestnut.

As an attorney colleague, I have known Jack Chestnut for approximately 17 years, and I am familiar with the high regard his fellow practicing attorneys have for his ability, his high ethical standards, and his personal character.

As a holder of public legislative and executive office for more than 16 years, I have had many occasions to observe his work before the Minnesota Legislature and his involvement in campaign activities. Without reservation, I can attest to the high ethical quality of his work in a state which is known for high standards of political activity.

One example may serve to illustrate this point. In 1970, when Mr. Chestnut was the manager of Hubert Humphrey's campaign for re-election as U.S. Senator, I was a candidate for governor, and we shared the same campaign facilities.

During this period, I was in very frequent contact with Mr. Chestnut. I was struck by the high quality of ethical standards he attempted to maintain at all times in the campaign.



Judge Weinfeld
June 13, 1975
Page 2

I believe it is most appropriate for me to share my firm belief that Mr. Chestnut is an honest and honorable man who attempted to discharge his responsibilities in that campaign in an honest and ethical manner.

In short, I share the high regard of my legal and political colleagues for Mr. Chestnut's high ethical standards and character, and I hope that you will take these judgments into consideration in making your decision.

With warmest regards.

Sincerely,

Wendell R. Anderson

Wendell R. Anderson

WRA:rs





STATE OF MINNESOTA
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
ST. PAUL 55155

WARREN SPANNAUS
ATTORNEY GENERAL

June 12, 1975

TELEPHONE
(612) 296-6196

The Honorable Edward Weinfeld
c/o Mr. Ronald S. Rogart
U.S. Probation Officer
U.S. District Court
207 U.S. Court House, Room 204 E
Foley Square
New York, New York 10007

Re: United States of America v. Jack L. Chestnut

Dear Judge Weinfeld:

I understand that you are presently preparing for the sentencing of Mr. Jack L. Chestnut in the matter of U.S.A. vs. Jack L. Chestnut. Since I feel that community input is desirable in order to make an informed deliberation, I am writing to share with you my personal insight as to the character and reputation of Mr. Chestnut.

In 1962 I first became acquainted with Mr. Chestnut when we were both lawyers on Minnesota Attorney General Walter Mondale's staff. There, I never found occasion to doubt Mr. Chestnut's integrity. Throughout the following years in local and statewide Bar Association activities, I observed the same virtue in his professional behavior. While I have served as Attorney General of the State of Minnesota, my opinion that Mr. Chestnut is a credit to the legal profession has been buttressed through my office's dealings with him as a private lawyer.

Politically, Mr. Chestnut and I worked together on numerous election campaigns such as those of Lyndon Johnson (in 1964), Walter Mondale (in 1966), and Hubert H. Humphrey (in 1968, 1970 and 1972). In those frequent encounters, I found Mr. Chestnut to be an efficient, disciplined, and highly ethical person. In all respects, he was a "good man."

In addition to contacts in both professional and political contexts, I have participated with Mr. Chestnut in civic endeavors. For example, annually, the city of Roseville in the State of Minnesota has a special municipal day with attendant activities and festivities. For several years, Mr. Chestnut has organized



Honorable Edward Weinfeld

June 12, 1975

the municipal events. Also he has functioned as a liaison between participating businesses and other members of that community. Through my involvement in the same activities, I observed Mr. Chestnut demonstrating the same commendable characteristics that were evident in our other contacts.

During the thirteen years that I have known Mr. Chestnut in the aforementioned settings, I never heard any unfavorable comments regarding the moral character of Mr. Chestnut.

I hope that this summary of my impressions as to Mr. Chestnut's character and reputation will assist you in your deliberations.

Yours truly,



WARREN SPANNAUS
Attorney General
State of Minnesota

WB/ktp



COUNTY OF RAMSEY
MUNICIPAL COURT

JOSEPH P. SUMMERS
JUDGE

June 16, 1975

The Honorable Edward Weinfeld
c/o Mr. Ronald S. Rogart
U. S. Probation Officer
U. S. District Court
207 U. S. Court House, Room 204 E
Foley Square
New York, New York 10007

Dear Judge Weinfeld:

Jack Chestnut is a pillar of the community. He has given unstintingly of his time and talents to a host of civic projects. He won't get nationwide headlines for the money he raised for the Roseville Central Park Foundation, the years he spent building up the Roseville Jaycees, or the work and ability he displayed in establishing an aggressive and talented young law firm from scratch, but these things are far more indicative of his true character than is the relatively insignificant charge of which he stands convicted.

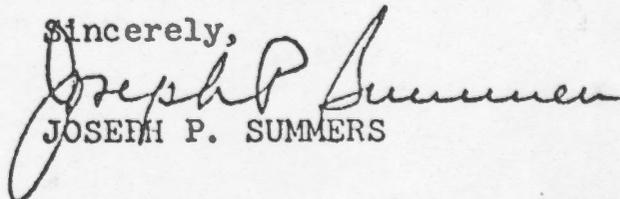
The American Bar Association sentencing standards provide that criminal remedies ought to be considered in this order: probation, fine, or incarceration. A non-probation disposition ought to be considered only where it is relatively clear, by reason of past record or the heinousness of the offense, that probation or a fine will not reform the offender or protect society.

Society doesn't have to be protected from Jack Chestnut. There ought to be more Jack Chestnuts.

Jack Chestnut doesn't have to be fined or imprisoned to insure that he won't violate federal campaign financing laws--if indeed he ever did. The agony he and his family have gone through since this nightmare began are more than sufficient punishment. His wife doesn't smile much any more. He is out over \$15,000 in defense costs. He will be suspended from practice in the local federal courts for a significant period of time. What more is needed?

Jack Chestnut is a 100% good probation risk. I urge the Court to place him on probation.

Sincerely,


JOSEPH P. SUMMERS

Court House, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102

612 298-4759



O'CONNOR & HANNAN
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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JAMES D. MCKEVITT
RICHARD G. MORGAN
DOUGLAS M. CARNIVAL
TERENCE P. BOYLE
BRIAN P. PHELAN
HOPE S. FOSTER
JAMES R. MORGAN

RALPH F. BERLOW (1923-1972)

OF COUNSEL
JOSEPH F. CASTIELLO
FRED D. THOMPSON

NOT MEMBER OF MINNESOTA BAR

June 14, 1975

The Honorable Edward Weinfeld
U.S. District Court
Southern District of New York
207 U.S. Court House
Foley Square
New York, New York 10007

Dear Judge:

I appeared in your courtroom as a witness for the defense in the Government's case against Jack Chestnut. Since he will soon be appearing before you for sentencing, I decided to write this letter.

I met Jack Chestnut when he was an Assistant Attorney General for the State of Minnesota in 1960 and through the years we have developed a close relationship. Many things come to my mind which I want to relate to you about him. He was and is well equipped to practice law ... he has a quiet judicious manner ... common sense ... a probing mind ... a basic sense of fairness and is a dedicated hard worker.

In 1964 Jack decided to go into private practice -- not an easy decision since he had no family or business relationship to help him establish a practice. He succeeded through hard work, gaining respect of the local bar and, due to the character traits mentioned above, was able to attract others of exceptional academic caliber to join him in the practice of law. I can attest to the fact that it is most difficult to establish a law firm in Minneapolis. Yet, although unknown, he developed a fine firm in a relatively short period of time. Jack Chestnut is regarded as a lawyer in our community; politics does not dominate his life. He, like me, is interested in government and enjoys



The Honorable Edward Weinfeld
June 14, 1975
Page 2

helping people get elected to public office. He did not profit from this. On the contrary, it took a considerable amount of his time -- time which could have otherwise been spent in the private practice. Politics in Minnesota (during my adult life) has been open and relatively free of corruption. Many dedicated, farsighted and honest men have come up through the ranks of both parties emerging into national prominence. These men have been the subject of admiration and have influenced people like Jack and me to take an active role in politics. This has been a wholesome and enriching experience for us.

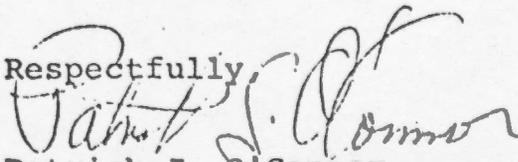
In 1970 there was a small group of us who frequently met working on financing the Humphrey Senate campaign. This informal group took its leadership from Fred Gates (now deceased), the treasurer of the Humphrey Senatorial committee. Fred Gates was in charge of the finances and Jack Chestnut had the responsibility for the day-to-day political operations of the campaign. He functioned as the campaign manager.

Your Honor, Jack Chestnut did not realize economic gain or financial benefit as the result of his efforts in politics. He did whatever job he was assigned well, starting out working on motorcades and airport rallies, graduating into advance work and finally undertaking the responsibility for managing a campaign for the Presidency.

It is difficult to set forth in a brief letter one's impressions and observations gained over a fifteen year period; however, I hope that I have conveyed to you my feelings that Jack Chestnut is a fine man and able lawyer and that what I have said will be of help to you in your deliberations.

Jack Chestnut, as I have described him to you, is the type of person we have always sought to recruit into politics. I sincerely hope that prosecutions, such as this one, do not have the effect of discouraging young, bright people from becoming active and involved in party organizational politics.

Respectfully,


Patrick J. O'Connor

PJO:bw



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JOHN F. BARRY, JR.
HENRY C. BLACKISTON
DAVID H. BOTTOMS, JR.
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J. EDWARD SHILLINGBURG
GORDON B. SPIVACK
MARK THOMAN
CHARLES R. WALKER, III
JOHN K. WATSON, JR.

June 12, 1975

Honorable Edward Weinfeld
c/o R.S. Rogart - U.S. Probation Officer
207 U.S. Court House - Room 204 E
Foley Square
New York, N. Y. 10007

Dear Judge Weinfeld:

I am a member of the bar of the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York. I am writing this letter in connection with the imminent sentencing of Jack L. Chestnut.

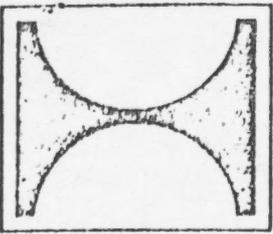
In 1965, the Reader's Digest, a client of my firm, retained Mr. Chestnut's firm, Chestnut, Jones, Brooks & Kennedy, in Minneapolis, Minnesota to defend a Digest subsidiary in a suit brought in that jurisdiction. I travelled to Minneapolis and worked on the defense of the case with members of the Chestnut firm, including Mr. Chestnut. I found him to be an able and conscientious lawyer and a person of integrity. I can not believe that he would deliberately engage in a violation of any law, or that he will not in the future act as a responsible and law-abiding citizen. I very much hope your Honor will decide to deal leniently with Mr. Chestnut.

Respectfully yours,

John W. Castles 3d
John W. Castles 3d

JWC: fmm





HENNEPIN COUNTY

June 12, 1975

The Honorable Edward Weinfeld
c/o Mr. Ronald S. Rogart
U.S. Probation Officer
U.S. District Court
207 U.S. Court House, Room 204 E
Foley Square
New York, New York 10007

Dear Judge Weinfeld:

I am writing to you concerning the case of Jack Chestnut who is scheduled to appear before you on June 26, 1975 for sentencing.

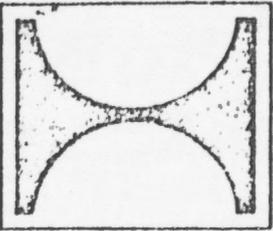
To assist you in putting my comments in perspective, you should know the following about me. I am a 40-year-old lawyer, former prosecutor on the local and state level, currently chief public defender for a county of one million people, former law partner of Jack Chestnut, an honor graduate of Notre Dame Law School in 1961 and a member of the law review editorial board. Basically, I have been a trial lawyer for almost fourteen years; I am divorced, supporting two children.

I have known Jack Chestnut personally and professionally for almost fifteen years. As young lawyers in the early 60's we were both assistants to then Minnesota Attorney General, now senior U.S. Senator, Walter F. Mondale.

In 1962 I took a brief leave of absence from the Attorney General's staff to direct Walter Mondale's campaign for election. One incident occurred during that campaign I would like to share with you. Fairly early in that campaign we received a check for \$5,000 on a campaign contribution from James Hoffa. The contribution was legal under Minnesota law. Mr. Hoffa was having certain problems at that time. I mentioned receiving the contribution to Jack Chestnut. He immediately told me that the source of funds, while legal, might still in the long run be improper, for the contributor would expect in all likelihood

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HENNEPIN COUNTY

to be given favorable treatment involving local Minnesota matters far beyond the merits of any issue or candidate Mr. Hoffa or the Teamsters were supporting. As I recall it, Jack said - "It's really quite simple, Bill, I don't believe its the right thing to do." On his advice, I declined the contribution. I have not discussed that incident with Jack since that time. The decision seemed remarkably easy for him to make.

In the years that have passed since 1962 I came to know Jack Chestnut very well. I was a law partner of his from 1965 - 1971. We discussed hundreds of cases, clients, causes and, of course, many political issues and candidates. His steadfast refusal to represent clients with spurious cases, his dedication to doing the right thing personally and professionally, his high personal standard of ethics, all deeply impressed me over the years.

In 1971 I left the firm to become Chief Public Defender. I did so for a lot of reasons, one of which I have never discussed until now. As a former prosecutor I knew how relatively easy it often is, despite the fairness of our system of justice, to wrongfully commit an innocent man. It happens. I was determined in 1971, and still am, to help prevent that. Despite the best efforts of myself and the other lawyers in our office, it still occasionally happens.

Men of integrity do not commit intentional crimes. In my opinion, integrity is not an "iffy" or conditional word. It doesn't blow in the breeze or change with the weather. Integrity is not a search for any reward or payoff. Integrity simply is, if a man looks at a mirror image of himself and sees a man who doesn't lie, cheat or steal, then he never will.

Jack Chestnut is a man of integrity.

Very truly yours,

William R. Kennedy
William R. Kennedy

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for Employment at Hennepin County*





STATE OF MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE
7TH FLOOR AMERICAN CENTER BLDG.
KELLOGG & ROBERT STS.
SAINT PAUL 55101

June 12, 1975

The Honorable Edward Weinfeld
c/o Mr. Ronald S. Rogart
U. S. Probation Officer
U. S. District Court
207 U. S. Courthouse, Room 204E
Foley Square
New York City, NY 10007

Dear Judge Weinfeld:

By way of introducing myself, I was a character witness for Mr. Jack Chestnut during his recent trial in New York City with you presiding.

I thought it proper to advise you that my respect for Mr. Chestnut's integrity remains as high and as enduring as it was prior to his trial.

I have known Mr. Chestnut for many years as a fellow parishioner in the Advent Lutheran Church in St. Paul, Minnesota, as a colleague in state government when he served as an Assistant Attorney General for the State of Minnesota, and during my tenure as Lieutenant Governor and Governor of Minnesota.

Mr. Chestnut is known for his honesty and high standard of morals. He was and is singularly highly regarded in the community of Minnesota.

Sincerely yours,

Karl F. Rolvaag
Chairman

KFR:ss

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MELVIN RISHE
LOIS OMENN ROSENBAUM
HOWARD M. WEINMAN
W. RICHARD WEST

FREDERICK SASS, JR.
COUNSEL

June 13, 1975
RECEIVED

JUN 20 1975

U. S. PROBATION OFFICE
SO. DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

OUR REFERENCE

Mr. R. S. Rogart
U.S. Probation Officer
U.S. Court House, Room 204-E
New York, New York 10007

Dear Mr. Rogart:

This letter is being written in connection with your preparation of a probation report for Judge Weinfeld on Mr. Jack Chestnut. I trust that my strong support of Mr. Chestnut will be of assistance to you and also of assistance to Mr. Chestnut whom I have known as an attorney and as a political associate for a number of years.

My direct and close association with Mr. Chestnut began in 1972 but I had met him, I believe, in 1964. During all of our relationship Mr. Chestnut impressed me as a man of very good character, integrity and firmness of principle. We also had the occasion for me to learn about Mr. Chestnut's professional competence and everything I knew impressed me favorably.

In 1971 and 1972 we worked very closely in connection with the Presidential campaign of Senator Hubert H. Humphrey. We met frequently during that period. This was a difficult period filled with strains and tensions but I never had reason to doubt Mr. Chestnut's strong character and determination to act with integrity and lawfully.

I have always considered Mr. Chestnut to be a positive force in the community. I am not at all familiar



Mr. R. S. Rogart - 2

June 13, 1975

with the events or the evidence involved in the indictment and his most recent conviction. Nothing that I have learned, however, has diminished my desire to submit this letter in his behalf.

Sincerely yours,



Max M. Kampelman



CHESTNUT, BROOKS & BURKARD

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

SUITE 054 MIDLAND BANK BUILDING

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55401

JACK L. CHESTNUT
RICHARD C. JONES (1969)
WILLIAM F. BROOKS, JR.
JOSEPH T. BURKARD
W. ROY JOHNSON
FLOYD E. BOLINE
WILLIAM L. ORR
THOMAS M. STRINGER
DAVID G. KUDUK
THOMAS H. GRAHAM
CRAIG A. ERICKSON
KARL L. CAMBRONNE

June 9, 1975

AREA CODE 612
333-0513

The Honorable Edward Weinfeld
c/o Mr. Ronald S. Rogart
U.S. Probation Officer
U.S. District Court
207 U.S. Court House, Room 204 E
Foley Square
New York, New York 10007

RE: United States of America v. Jack L. Chestnut

Dear Judge Weinfeld:

I am writing to discuss some items in connection with the recent trial and conviction of my partner, Jack L. Chestnut, that may be of assistance to you when you pass sentence.

Obviously, as Jack's close friend since 1961 and his law partner since 1965, I am biased in his favor, and wish to see him dealt with as leniently as the Court can in good conscience do.

I believe it is proper to exercise such leniency in this case for several reasons. But before discussing those reasons, I wish to say a few words about myself which may put my remarks in better perspective for the Court.

I am 48 years old, the oldest lawyer in our firm. I was educated in this country and abroad because of my father's assignments as an executive of the Associated Press and as Vice President in charge of news for the National Broadcasting Company, but essentially I was brought up in Scarsdale, N.Y. and in New York City. I was graduated from Union College, Schenectady, N.Y., in January, 1948, following two years naval service in the Pacific during World War II. I worked as a police and courts reporter for the Schenectady, N.Y. GAZETTE for one year. In January, 1949, I moved to Minneapolis to become a reporter for the Minneapolis TRIBUNE, one of the country's major newspapers. I was variously employed as a courts and city hall reporter, rewrite man and assistant editor until 1961, when I was graduated with honors from the University of Minnesota Law School. I accepted an appointment as Special Examiner in the office of Walter F. Mondale, then Attorney General of Minnesota, and upon admission to practice became a Special Assistant Attorney General. I served as such until June, 1964, when I entered practice in Minneapolis.



During the time that I was an assistant to Attorney General Mondale, I officed in the State Capitol with Mr. Chestnut. Under the system then in vogue in that office, every lawyer assigned to a specific department or set of responsibilities had a "second" lawyer who was responsible for back-up, for assistance in opinion and brief writing and to serve as a substitute in the event of conflicts, vacations, illness, and so on.

I was assigned primarily to represent the State Labor Conciliator, the State Treasurer as custodian of the special workmen's compensation fund, the Liquor Control Commissioner and to serve as the resident counsel for the Attorney General with respect to the election laws and the Minnesota Corrupt Practices Act. Mr. Chestnut served as "second" to me from time to time on the Liquor Control and election assignments. I served as his "second" on a miscellaneous assignment then known as "Other boards and commissions." That is, between the two of us, we represented all state boards and commissions, some forty-odd in number, whose business was too limited to warrant the assignment of a full-time or part-time attorney.

In the three years that we worked together in the Attorney General's office, I developed the highest regard for Jack's legal ability and feeling for the law - so much so, that when he was about to leave the staff in late 1963 we discussed the possibilities of practicing together. I had come to know him as an individual, as a lawyer and as a potential partner sufficiently well so that I was disposed to share my professional career with him. I had developed, as a newspaper reporter, some cynicism about many attorneys, but I felt that Jack represented what a lawyer should be - concise, efficient, learned, energetic and zealous for his client and his cause, yet with a well-developed sense of responsibility to the courts and to the public. We did in fact become partners in April, 1965, and have been partners since that time.

As our practice evolved, with Mr. Chestnut, Mr. William R. Kennedy and Mr. Joseph P. Summers all in the firm after service with Attorney General Mondale, we used a "first" and "second" assignment system so that each lawyer had the advantage of assistance from a knowledgeable colleague. Because of the nature of our clients, Mr. Chestnut and I found ourselves sharing more files with one another than with others in the firm. The emphasis on administrative law was strong with the needs of both our clients, and we naturally shared responsibility on those files.

As a consequence of our close association on many particular legal files, I believe I can say with knowledge that Mr. Chestnut's attitude toward the law and toward his practice has been exemplary. While we have from time to time differed on trial tactics or the organization and construction of a legal brief or memorandum, there hasn't been a single instance since 1961 in which I have had any cause to question his judgment insofar as professional conduct or a continuing concern for the proper handling of a case was involved.

I have also had a unique opportunity to observe Mr. Chestnut's conduct as a volunteer in politics. Both he and I have been active in our respective



June 9, 1975

home areas within the Democratic Farmer Labor Party since we first met, serving at various times as precinct or legislative district delegates or state convention delegates or alternates. Because of our close professional association, we naturally discussed our feelings about candidates and issues and about the conduct of various campaigns to which we were from time to time asked to contribute either volunteer work or funds. I can say without reservation that, at all times, he had a deep-felt conviction that not only should the party and its candidates appear to be correct but that they should in fact, to the best of their abilities, be correct in all respects - that is, with regard to their public posture on issues, with regard to their commitments within the party, and with regard to the conduct of their campaigns.

On a different level, I would like to comment upon what appeared to me to be an important factor in the outcome of the trial, which I attended in full. I believe that to accept the defense view of the case, the jury panel would of necessity have had to have a knowledge of the political climate and atmosphere in Minnesota that obviously it could not have. The openness of the political system in Minnesota and the general reliance within that system upon the goodwill and good intentions of others is, in my experience, almost unique.

It certainly is a totally different atmosphere than I encountered within the Democratic club in my district in Lower Manhattan or in the political organizations with which I was familiar in the Albany-Schenectady area. It differs distinctly from the published reports of the state of politics and the political art in the rest of the nation today.

For example, in the election recount for Governor in Minnesota in 1962, Mr. Rolvaag, who was a character witness for Mr. Chestnut, received a plurality of 58 votes in the original statewide canvass. Upon certain amendments in the canvass, his opponent, Mr. Anderson, was declared the winner by 142 votes. Upon the final recount, the Court held that Governor Rolvaag had in fact received a plurality of 91 votes and he was declared to be the ultimate winner. But what is significant is that out of 786,947 paper ballots, each one of which was physically scrutinized several times by representatives of both candidates, not one single instance of voter fraud was found. The net change in votes from the original canvass to the final decision was attributed entirely to discrepancy or inadvertent error. Yet this was a recount of an election in Minnesota in which poll watchers, in the sense of candidates' representatives, are not common.

The integrity of the Minnesota voting system depends primarily upon the integrity of the voters themselves. I believe this to be significant in this regard: In such a political climate, those of us who have been involved, and involved rather deeply, have always tended to accept the stated position of others. For this reason, I find it totally understandable that Mr. Chestnut accepted the word of Mr. Lilly, as he understood it, that the funds being contributed to the Humphrey campaign in 1970 were "free political funds." But as a New Yorker, I cannot help believing that the jurors may have found this difficult to accept.



June 9, 1975

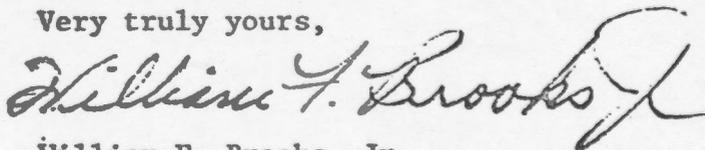
At least 50 persons of my acquaintance in Minnesota in both political parties have commented to me since the trial that they themselves would have accepted "AMPI funds" as a term describing a perfectly proper contribution from an interest group that legitimately spoke for a substantial portion of the Minnesota agri-business community.

Hindsight is, of course, best. Considering now the decisions that were made within our firm for Mr. Chestnut to make his time available for the Humphrey campaign and our discussions about how he should be involved with that campaign, I believe he took every reasonable step in his effort to construct a careful system to handle other political problems and questions, and in his efforts to obtain skilled and outside assistance on the legalities of the campaign. He and I discussed whether I, because of my experience in the Attorney General's office with the election law assignment, could give him that advice. We concluded he would be well-advised to seek outside advice because it would perhaps be more dispassionate and impersonal in view of the fact that I was a strong Humphrey supporter and one who had strongly encouraged Jack to become campaign manager. Upon reviewing what in fact transpired, it is clear that closer mechanical checks within the campaign structure and within our law offices with respect to the handling of mail and incoming material might have averted what occurred.

To the extent that my personal views are of any assistance to the Court, I can only assert as fervently as possible that I know this man through our law practice, through personal friendship, and through political association. I accept without question or reservation his position that he was unaware of the particular checks that were received in our office, did not see them, but that he would, if he had, returned them.

If there is anything further that I may be able to tell the Court or if there are any questions that I may respond to from the Court or from the probation office, I'll be most happy to make myself available to do so.

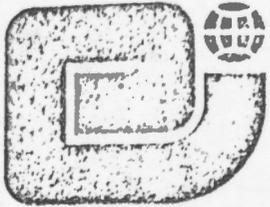
Very truly yours,



William F. Brooks, Jr.

WFB:sf





June 17, 1975

The Honorable Edward Weinfeld
c/o Mr. Ronald S. Rogart
U. S. Probation Officer
U. S. District Court
207 U. S. Court House
Room 204E
Foley Square
New York, New York 10007

Dear Judge Weinfeld:

I am writing to you on behalf of my friend, Jack Chestnut, who is due to be sentenced by you shortly.

Jack and I have been friends since 1970 as he has been my personal attorney and has acted as my lawyer in several business transactions since that time. Through that relationship and through my association with him in the political campaigns of 1970 and 1972, I believe that I know him well and can speak well of his character, his honor, his integrity and his diligence.

I first became well acquainted with Jack in 1970, when he was managing Senator Humphrey's campaign for election to the Senate and I was assisting the campaign for our present Governor, Wendell Anderson. We took part in joint meetings connected with coordination of the two statewide campaigns and I worked with him on other campaign projects for the two candidates.

In 1972, Jack asked me to be the Deputy Director of the Humphrey Campaign Committee, a post that I accepted. He and I shared an apartment in Washington, D. C. for approximately six months, as we were working out of the Humphrey Washington Headquarters. He and I also traveled together a considerable portion of that time, coordinating and directing various primaries throughout the Country. I was privy to much of his thought and concern about the campaign and I observed at first hand his diligent efforts to make sure that it was properly and cleanly run and that we weeded out those opportunists and undesireables who tend to attach themselves to national campaigns.



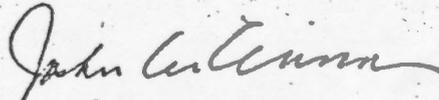
My wife and I have also known Jack and his wife, Karen, socially, our families have been together often and I believe that I have a clear understanding of his man's character and honesty.

It is inconceivable to me, knowing what I know about Jack and about the way in which he conducted himself in campaigns, to believe that he would knowingly have permitted the transactions to occur which were reported in the newspapers during his trial. Nothing I observed at dozens of meetings and in thousands of miles of travel with him, or in the many hours spent with him on legal matters that affected myself and my companies, would cause me to question his statement to me that he did not, in fact, know that AMPI was using corporate funds to contribute to the Humphrey campaign in 1970. I consider him a man of honor and integrity and I am pleased to continue to be his friend.

Jack has been one of those few individuals over the many years who has given to public service, his time, his energy, his effort and laid a foundation in the opinion of most who know him for integrity, honesty and fairness without personal financial benefit, but at a sacrifice to his family and law practice.

I hope these reflections and observations of mine may be of some assistance to you in determining the appropriate action to take in his sentencing.

Sincerely,



John M. Morrison
Chairman of the Board

JMM/dar



ROOM 020
30 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10020

June 16, 1975

The Honorable Edward Weinfeld
U.S. District Court
Southern District of New York
207 U.S. Court House
Foley Square
New York, NY 10007

Dear Judge:

I wish to submit this letter for your consideration on behalf of Jack Chestnut, who will soon be appearing before you for sentencing.

Although I am now a New York resident, a member of the bar here, and practicing as a member of the Law Department of the National Broadcasting Company, I grew up in Minneapolis and graduated from the University of Minnesota Law School. I have known Jack Chestnut since my college and law school days there when I first began to participate in state politics by becoming active in Democratic organization and campaign activities. Jack Chestnut had then just recently graduated from law school and was serving with the State Attorney General's office. His very real concern for good state government, as well as that held by other young lawyers who were active in state political party organizations, impressed me while still a student and provided the example which was an inducement for me and many of my contemporaries to become involved as well. The present Governor and Attorney General are among those contemporaries who also became so involved.

Upon completing my military service obligation by serving in the Army Judge Advocate General's Corps until



The Honorable Edward W. 'r'feld

June 16, 1975

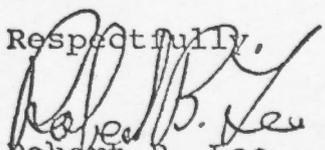
Page 2

the spring of 1968, this interest to play a meaningful role in the political process led to my participation in that year's Presidential campaign on behalf of Hubert Humphrey. My work in this campaign principally as an advanceman, again provided an opportunity for me to work with, and be impressed by Jack Chestnut. He had retained his interest in seeking to assist good men achieve public office, and had assumed even more responsibilities in the state political organization while also establishing a well-respected law firm in Minneapolis.

Subsequent to that campaign I worked in Washington during the next five years for the Federal Trade Commission in its antitrust enforcement activities. Nevertheless, I retained my interest in Minnesota. Particularly through my friendship with William Brooks, a law school contemporary of mine and partner in practice with Jack Chestnut, I was aware of the good work and public spirited approach that characterized Jack's continued success, both with his law firm and in the Democratic political organization. He has proved himself to be a fine man and an able lawyer whose talents are a great benefit to his community. At times I regret that I did not chose a similar course for my own professional career rather than the perhaps more secure government and corporate course, which I did pursue.

It is regrettable that good people, by becoming actively involved in the very necessary task of party organization, and campaign financing and administration, must work in an enviroment having circumstances which might lead to a prosecution such as this. Hopefully, the newly enacted election reform laws will minimize such circumstances, the exposure to adverse consequences, and the reluctance of able, public spirited lawyers like Jack Chestnut to get involved.

Respectfully,


Robert B. Lee

RBL:RL



Re Jack Chestnut

RSR

Robert Mampel formerly Agent in charge of US Secret Service with offices in Minneapolis and now Commissioner of Banks for Minnesota (since August 1973) volunteered comments on defendant. He has known defendant both in the business and social worlds. He considers him a fine outstanding citizen in the community and a person of excellent character in business.

Mr Mampel called me in St Louis Missouri from Minnesota during the training session because he was going to be unavailable for the next few weeks.

Ed Abas — Sus PC
6/13/75



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JUN 10 1975

The Honorable Edward Weinfeld
Judge of United States District Court
c/o Mr. Ronald S. Rogart
United States Probation Officer
207 United States Courthouse
Foley Square
New York, New York 10007

Re: Jack L. Chestnut

Dear Sir:

This letter is written in an effort to assist the Court through the probation officer in connection with the pending imposition of sentence with respect to Jack L. Chestnut.

Mr. Chestnut is the senior partner in the firm of Chestnut, Brooks & Burkard. This firm is in the general practice of law with offices in the Midland Bank Building, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

I have been involved personally with Mr. Chestnut over the past several years in the antibiotic litigation. I have found him to be a very able practicing lawyer, an excellent administrator and, generally, a credit to the profession.

In addition to commercial litigation, Mr. Chestnut is heavily engaged in the practice of admiralty law and frequently is involved with pilots who operate on the Great Lakes and elsewhere. In addition, he has been involved in various aspects of Minnesota dairy law. In sum, Mr. Chestnut is an active practitioner in the Twin Cities and Duluth areas.

If you have any questions, I shall be happy to do my best to answer them.

Sincerely,

Eudene M. Warlich
Eudene M. Warlich

ENW:sll



INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF GREAT LAKES PORTS

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June 11, 1975

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The Honorable Edward Weinfeld
c/o Mr. Ronald S. Rogart
U.S. Probation Officer
U.S. District Court
207 U.S. Court House, Room 204 E
Foley Square
New York, New York 10007

Dear Judge Weinfeld:

The International Association of Great Lakes Ports, comprised of 17 American and 5 Canadian Ports, has for some time been associated with Mr. Jack L. Chestnut in a professional capacity and have found him to be of high moral character and excellent business judgement.

His expertise in progressing matters of international importance has been sought on numerous occasions by members of our maritime industry, and in all instances he has been forthcoming in depth and clarity. Mr. Chestnut has made significant contributions to the well-being of thousands of people in the Great Lakes States, from New York to Minnesota, whose livelihood depends on a healthy and prosperous St. Lawrence Seaway System.

As President of the International Association of Great Lakes Ports, I have the highest regard for his professional ability and personally, I value his friendship.

On behalf of the Association, Judge Weinfeld, respectfully request that you take this information into consideration in your deliberations regarding the Jack L. Chestnut matter.

Very truly yours,

C. Thomas Burke
President

CPB:KOS



S. HARRISON DOGOLE
GLOBE SECURITY SYSTEMS, INC.

OFFICE OF THE
CHAIRMAN

June 11, 1975

The Honorable Edward Weinfeld
c/o Mr. Ronald Rogart,
United States Probation Officer
United States District Court #207
United States Court House, Room #204E
Foley Square
New York, N.Y. 10007

Dear Judge Weinfeld:

I had the privilege of testifying in front of you, for just a few minutes, in the recent trial involving Jack Chestnut, Esquire. In the limited time allotted to me, it was obviously difficult to be able to say the things that one knows about a given individual, which might be meaningful to the court. I am, therefore, taking the liberty of writing to you, to perhaps give you some greater insight to the man, Jack Chestnut.

I was active on the Finance Committee for Senator Hubert H. Humphrey in both 1970-1971, and 1972 Campaigns. As you know, Jack Chestnut was the Campaign Chairman for the Senator during those years. I found Jack to be very circumspect in all of our dealings. He was honest; forthright and never attempted to deceive me in any way.

Under Jack's direction, we adhered to a rigid policy of not accepting corporate checks. As a matter of fact, I recall returning a couple of corporate checks; requesting that personal type instruments be returned in their place. It is possible that, through inadvertence, one or more corporate checks filtered through the process. It is highly unlikely however, that Jack would have known of this because his numerous duties as Chairman, could not have given him enough time to examine every deposit, or every check.



The Honorable Edward Weinfeld -2

June 11, 1975

Despite the verdict of the jury, in all good conscience, I feel that Jack was not guilty of any intentional illegal activity. He is a moral man; a family man and a decent lawabiding citizen.

I hope that you will give the utmost consideration to some of my comments, when you make a deliberation, with respect to sentencing.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely,

S. Harrison Dogole

S. Harrison Dogole
2503 Lombard Street
Philadelphia, Penna. 19146

SHD/d





DONALD C. ODDEN
JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT
COURT HOUSE
DULUTH, MINNESOTA

June 5, 1975

The Honorable Edward Weinfeld
Judge of the U. S. District Court
c/o Mr. Ronald S. Rogart
U. S. Probation Officer
U. S. District Court House
207 U. S. Court House
New York NY 10007

In re: Jack Chestnut

Your Honor:

As you probably know, I was one of the character witnesses to testify in behalf of Jack Chestnut at his recent trial in your court. I have known Mr. Chestnut socially, academically and judicially for almost 20 years. In those years, I have never known his character to be anything but exemplary. He is a man of excellent character, a fine family man with strong religious convictions. I have hunted and fished with him on numerous occasions, and Jack has always brought along one or more of his children. It is on this type of occasion where one learns the true character of a man, and it is because of this type of relationship that I write to you recommending and requesting leniency in your imposition of sentence regarding his recent conviction. If this letter is presumptuous on my part, please do not take it out on Jack.

I have been a District Court Judge for the State of Minnesota for over 12 years, and I know the anguish that Judges go through in passing judgment on defendants. However, in this case, any consideration on your part in behalf of Mr. Chestnut would be received by him with great humility and with appreciation by his family and his many friends.

Sincerely,

Donald C. Odden

DCO:ccr



June 3, 1975

The Honorable Edward Weinfeld
c/o Ronald Rogart
U. S. Probation Officer
U. S. District Court
207 U. S. Courthouse
Room 204E
Foley Square
New York, N. Y. 10007

Dear Judge Weinfeld:

I am writing to you regarding the case of Jack L. Chestnut, who will appear shortly before your court for sentencing on a conviction regarding campaign contributions.

I have known Mr. Chestnut for over ten years, since he first began to be a volunteer in Senator Humphrey's campaigns. I was the Senator's administrative assistant, his chief of staff, from 1961 through 1968, and it was among my tasks to weed out the undesirable and the unreliable from among the many volunteers who constantly sought association with the Senator. Chestnut from the beginning stood out as selfless, quiet, totally honest and reliable. I recall a particular instance, when Senator Humphrey was coming into Minneapolis for the closing event of one of his national campaigns, and Chestnut was in charge of all the Minnesota arrangements -- a major and demanding task. We later found out that his father had died that morning or the evening before, and yet he stayed on, nevertheless, until he was satisfied that his job was completed. It was an astonishing demonstration of devotion and selflessness. Indeed, Chestnut's reputation for honesty and integrity has always been flawless. It was precisely this reputation that made him the logical choice to be the chairman of Senator Humphrey's campaign for the Senate in 1970, and of his national campaign in 1972.

This brings me to my second point: it is important to remember that Chestnut was not the Treasurer of the 1970 campaign, but rather it was Fred Gates of Minneapolis who was Treasurer, and who in fact personally handled the money in the campaign. I am very familiar with the relationship, for I was a member of a small informal steering group which met from time to time with Chestnut and Mr. Gates (now deceased) to review the course of the campaign.



The Honorable Edward Weinfeld

Page 2

June 3, 1975

There were discussions from time to time about "AMPI's" possible contributions to the campaign, and yet it was always understood by everyone involved that it was not AMPI's corporate funds that were in discussion but the funds of its political arm, C-TAPE. Indeed, few of us, including myself (who worked for AMPI) could readily recall the exact title of AMPI's political trust, but we knew that the trust had substantial amounts of available political dollars. There was never any discussion by either Gates or Chestnut in my presence or that I heard about second-hand which envisaged the furnishing of AMPI corporate dollars to the campaign. It would have been considered an absurdity, in light of the very large amounts of "free" money available for political contributions.

My third point is raised because I understand that late in Mr. Chestnut's trial the prosecution brought before the jury the fact that Chestnut's law firm had been retained by AMPI through me, and there may have been an implication or suggestion made that this retainer was perhaps an illegal contribution to the Humphrey campaign. Again, I am thoroughly familiar with the circumstances of that retainer, and to even suggest that the retainer was a campaign contribution is deeply unfair. I have testified at length under oath before the Federal Grand Jury, before the Senate Watergate Committee, and to the Internal Revenue Service on these facts:

1. I was asked early in 1970 by AMPI officials to recommend an attorney who had experience in antitrust matters and who knew the dairy situation in Minnesota and Wisconsin. I cited two former assistant attorneys general -- Jack Chestnut and Sidney Berde -- who were both qualified. Chestnut had, in fact, been the counsel to the Dairy Division of the Minnesota Department of Agriculture and was a noted antitrust specialist. I strongly recommended Chestnut as a man I had long known and particularly respected. Indeed, I was retaining him to represent me personally in a matter concerning the establishment of a Minnesota representation for Polyastics Corporation of Philadelphia, Pa. And I was later to join Chestnut in forming a cable television corporation in St. Paul.
2. The AMPI official who told me that they had decided to retain Chestnut asked if I had any objection to their paying Chestnut his retainer through me. I had been on a public relations retainer for AMPI since early 1969, and I had no objection, only noting that I would bill them each month for my own retainer plus an additional amount for legal fees, which I would then forward to Chestnut. I gathered that there may have been some internal reasons involving AMPI's in-house legal department why they preferred to handle the retainer in this manner.



June 3, 1975

3. It was explicitly understood that Chestnut's retainer was for legal counsel on the matter of possible antitrust implications involving discussions of mergers of several cooperatives in the Upper Midwest. I recall that the very large Land O' Lakes cooperative was somehow involved, and that Chestnut had had some experience in dealing with that cooperative.

It seems to me most unusual and deeply unfair of the prosecution to bring up this retainer during the trial, when there was never any question in the minds of the grand jury, the Watergate Committee, or the IRS, to the best of my knowledge, that the retainer was in any way illegal or even improper.

Finally, Your Honor, may I say that I have seen scores of men who made a good thing out of politics -- some who made fortunes out of their connections with political officials. I have always regarded Jack Chestnut as one of those rare individuals who involved himself in politics out of a desire to serve, and not to benefit financially. I have considered him, and I consider him now, a man who has given far more to public service than anyone should be asked to give -- without even trying to benefit from such service. To my certain knowledge he has never asked anything for himself -- not position, not money, no preference of any kind. Indeed, it is difficult for me to accept that outright thieves who enriched themselves out of politics and government office have gone scot-free, and a man like Jack Chestnut can be humiliated and convicted as he has been.

I respectfully submit these thoughts, Your Honor, in the hope that you will take them into consideration as you determine the appropriate sentence in Mr. Chestnut's case.

Sincerely,



William Connell





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June 9, 1975

The Honorable Edward Weinfeld
c/o Mr. Ronald S. Rogart
U.S. Probation Officer
U.S. District Court
207 U.S. Court House, Room 204E
Foley Square
New York, New York 10007

RE: Jack Chestnut

Dear Sir:

I have been associated with Mr. Chestnut as a friend, advisor and as a counsel for the Minnesota Department of Agriculture for many years. I first became acquainted with Mr. Chestnut when he was serving as an Assistant Attorney General for the then Attorney General, now our Senior U.S. Senator Walter Mondale. In his official capacity, he rendered many sound opinions, interpreting the statutes of the State of Minnesota for state agencies and was considered to be an outstanding Assistant Attorney General.

After Mr. Chestnut left the Attorney General's Office and established his own law practice, our Unfair Trade Practices Section retained Mr. Chestnut as an attorney on a monthly fee basis. In that capacity, he prosecuted violators of the statutes and rules that applied to the section. I served as hearing officer during most of his term as attorney for this section. He drafted proposed legislation which amended in its entirety the Unfair Trade Practices Statutes and appeared as an expert witness before the necessary committees of the Legislature to secure passage of the proposed amendments.

After his tour of duty in this capacity in our State Department of Agriculture, I had occasion to secure his services as a practicing private attorney to perfect certain mergers for associated milk producers. As a state official, I have been closely associated with the Attorney General's staff of this state and numerous attorneys in private practice that have represented clients before the Department of Agriculture, and a good number of times I have been the hearing officer at these appearances. I have also used the services of Mr. Chestnut for quasi public firms such as the Agri-Growth Council and also have assigned to Mr. Chestnut a number of estates which required probate processing and have used him as my own personal lawyer a number of times. In every capacity that he has been associated with me, whether official or private, he has been an outstanding, competent and dedicated attorney.



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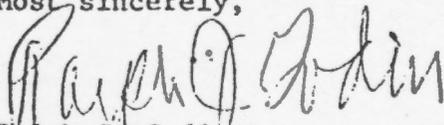
June 9, 1975

I am also well acquainted with his family and all the other members of his law firm. He is a man of fine upright moral character and would not, in my opinion, in any way compromise any of his professional ethics or principles for personal gain. I am firmly convinced that Mr. Chestnut would not have accepted one dollar for Senator Humphrey's campaign that was in any way tainted or illegal, knowing it to be such.

He has been an outstanding achiever in community affairs and is well thought of by his friends and professional associates. I certainly hope that His Excellency will be very considerate of this outstanding attorney when he imposes sentence upon him.

I feel that the opinions I have expressed here are objective. I am not a relative in any sense to Mr. Chestnut, nor am I associated with him other than having retained his services for the Department of Agriculture and for private clients. I will be terminating my services in state government this year after having spent 41 years with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture. During that period of time I have observed at close hand the operations of both state and federal governments and have observed the campaign practices of many high-ranking political persons; and while I do not believe that in any way Mr. Chestnut was aware of the fact that these were, in the final analysis, corporate funds, I am tempted to conclude my appeal in his behalf with the statement that Admiral Chester Nimitz made to Admiral Husband Kimmel when he took command of the naval fleet at Pearl Harbor after the Japanese bombing when he said, "But for the grace of God, there go I."

Most sincerely,



Ralph J. Godin
Deputy Commissioner of Agriculture

RJG:hk



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OF COUNSEL
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ROBERT L. VANFOSSEN

June 11, 1975

The Honorable Edward Weinfeld
c/o Mr. Ronald S. Rogart
U.S. Probation Officer
U.S. District Court
207 U.S. Court House, Room 204 E
Foley Square
New York, New York 10007

Dear Judge Weinfeld:

I am taking the liberty of writing you in connection with the presentence investigation of Jack Chestnut which I understand is being conducted by Mr. Ronald Rogart under your supervision.

I have known Mr. Chestnut professionally here in Minneapolis for some years. He has long been a highly respected member of our bar.

I have been engaged in substantial litigation with him and with other members of his firm over the years. I have found him to be a capable, conscientious, and ethical advocate and adversary.

Although, as you know, Mr. Chestnut has worked long and hard for Senator Humphrey, both he and his law firm are primarily committed to the private practice of law and it is exclusively in this latter capacity that I have had my dealings with him.



The Honorable Edward Weinfeld
June 11, 1975
Page Two

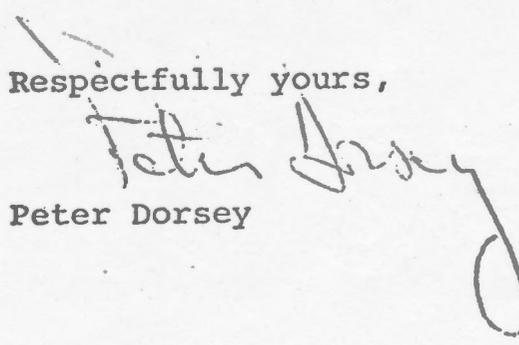
I know that my high opinion of him as a lawyer and a valued member of this community is shared by a large number of other practicing lawyers who know him as I do in his professional capacity.

I simply thought these few remarks might be helpful to you at this time.

I will be happy to try and answer any additional questions which you and Mr. Rogart might have. In this regard, please feel free to call me collect at 612/340-2607.

I understand that sentencing is to take place in New York City on June 26th. By coincidence I will be in New York on June 25th and 26th on other business and if you feel that talking with me face to face would be helpful, I would be glad to come down to the court house to meet you.

Respectfully yours,


Peter Dorsey

PD/pc



Martin Ryan Haley & Associates, Inc.

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442 Summit Avenue, Saint Paul
Via Nizza 63, Rome
6A, rue Copernic, Brussels
Los Pinos 3, Santo Domingo

New York 10019

June 11, 1975

The Honorable Edward Weinfeld
United States District Court
Foley Square
New York, New York 10007

Your Honor:

I have wanted to write you in behalf of Jack Chestnut because I followed the case involving him with great interest, for two reasons. I have known him well for just over fifteen years, and second, our firm works entirely in the political field, as political and public affairs advisors to some twenty-four large organizations.

Because we have offices in both New York and Minnesota, I have had an opportunity over the years to observe at closest range the political traditions and mores of the two states. My saying that they are quite different will probably not surprise you as indeed the way of politics varies enormously from region to region around the United States.

New York has undergone great change in recent years. I must observe that Minnesota underwent that change somewhat earlier, in the late 1940's and early 1950's when what is now known nationally as the New Politics was already emerging there. I believe it is fair to say, and few political people would challenge this, that the ethical standards of politics in Minnesota have for twenty-five years been among the highest in the nation. I would rank them with those of Wisconsin and California, as other examples. It was in this milieu that Jack Chestnut entered the political world, although always as an avocation, because he is known principally as a practicing attorney who has occasionally exercised his personal interest in politics.

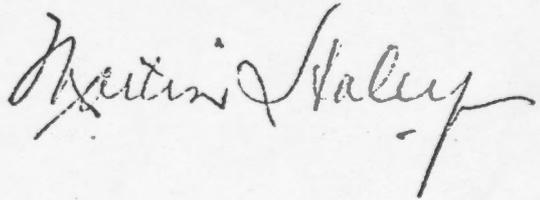


The Honorable Edward Weinfeld
June 11, 1975
Page 2

Given the Minnesota political environment in both parties there, a uniformly high standard of automatically accepted ethics, Jack Chestnut's avocational interest in politics, his high personal reputation in the Minnesota community, and my personal knowledge of how strenuously he has worked to preserve his reputation and ethical standards over the years that I have known him, I respectfully suggest to your Honor that his case merits special consideration in these days before he is due to appear before you again.

With thanks for the time which you have given to reading my comments, I remain

Respectfully and sincerely,



MRH/pc



CHESTER DURDA

June 11, 1975

The Honorable Edward Weinfeld
c/o Ronald Rogart
U. S. Probation Officer
U. S. District Court
207 U. S. Courthouse
Room 204 E, Foley Square
New York, New York 10007

Dear Judge Weinfeld:

According to the news media, I understand that Jack Chestnut is undergoing a presentence investigation before Your Honor. I feel I would be remiss if I didn't write to the court in his behalf.

Over the past fifteen years, Jack Chestnut and I have had many legal matters together when I was Chief Prosecutor, Municipal and District Court Judge of Hennepin County: He always conducted himself in a manner that was creditable to the Bench, Bar and public. His reputation for truth and honesty are above reproach by all who know or have dealt with him personally and professionally.

From social gatherings where I have had an opportunity to meet his wife and family, I can say he's an excellent husband and father. In his own community he has the respect and admiration of all who know the family.

Jack Chestnut is not a professional politician nor a political hack. I believe his interest in managing two campaigns was his way of participating in our system of Democracy.

Sentencing is one of the many responsibilities a trial judge has, and I know that Your Honor will consider the fact that Chestnut's conviction will require consideration of his disbarment. This alone has and will cause the family many problems that the average person couldn't even begin to comprehend.

Your consideration in reading this letter is most appreciated.

Respectfully,

Chester Durda

Chester Durda
7801 Ewald Terrace
Golden Valley, MN 55426

CD:rm



D. W. JIMMERSON
3940 Walden Road
Wayzata, Minnesota 55391

June 11, 1975

The Honorable Edward Weinfeld
c/o Mr. Ronald S. Rogart
U.S. Probation Officer
U.S. District Court
207 U.S. Court House, Room 204 E
Foley Square
New York, New York 10007

Dear Judge Weinfeld:

I am writing to you about Jack Chestnut because I believe it is important that you have some idea of the respect and esteem with which we hold this man, who know him best in his own community. I have personally known Jack Chestnut for almost ten years.

Most of my life I have been engaged in agriculture in one form or another. I am President of Agricultural Services, Inc. In addition to being involved in Agricultural Services, Inc., which is a chemical distributor, I am a one-third owner in a large, integrated turkey producing complex, Koronis Mill Supply and affiliates at Paynesville, Minnesota.

I am a past President of the Minnesota Turkey Growers Association, and I presently am First Vice President of the Minnesota Agri-Growth Council, a trade organization of agricultural and agri-business enterprises. I am also an active Republican.

I first became acquainted with Mr. Chestnut as a result of my activities in the Minnesota Turkey Growers Association. Mr. Chestnut became counsel for the Turkey Growers Association and worked on their promotional and marketing orders. We were all impressed with his skill and integrity. Subsequently, he became counsel for our turkey growing companies, in respect to a legal action in antitrust against five of the major drug



D. W. JIMMERSON
3940 Walden Road
Wayzata, Minnesota 55391

companies. I am also aware of his activities in the Attorney General's office, his service through his volunteer political work, his community development work in the Village of Roseville and his generosity for the Williams Scholarship Fund at the University of Minnesota.

I wish to express to you, Judge Weinfeld, without equivocation, that I personally hold this man in the highest esteem. From personal knowledge, I can state that his integrity and ability are viewed in the same manner by those others in the community that know him.

I find it impossible to believe that he knowingly would do anything improper in the conduct of Senator Humphrey's campaign. Every man makes mistakes. I hope that you will be able to weigh the past conduct of this man in determining the outcome of his current problem.

Very truly yours,

D. W. Jimmerson
D. W. Jimmerson



minneapolis



city of lakes

MAYOR ALBERT J. HOFSTEDE

June 12, 1975

The Honorable Edward Weinfeld
c/o Mr. Ronald S. Rogart
U. S. Probation Officer
U. S. District Court
207 U. S. Court House, Room 204 E
Foley Square
New York, New York 10007

Dear Judge Weinfeld:

It has come to my attention that Mr. Jack Chestnut is to appear before you in the next few days for sentencing stemming from his recent conviction. I am writing this letter to inform you of my personal relationship with Jack and his fine standing in our community.

I have personally known Jack to be a well respected attorney, an honest politician and a good friend for a number of years. When I managed Wendell Anderson's successful campaign for Governor in 1970 Jack and I often worked together on a number of issues and problems. Throughout that relationship I felt Jack was always fair and honest. When we left our shared headquarters in the fall of 1970 I knew we would continue that relationship based on our mutual respect.

Much has been said over the past months and years about the political process in our country. Certainly, mistakes have been made but the system of laws has done its work. It is now up to you, of course, to fit the punishment to the crime. I can add only my personal knowledge of his excellent reputation in our city and state. I ask you to consider my assessment and urge you to make a fair and compassionate decision next week.

Sincerely,

Albert J. Hofstede
Mayor of Minneapolis

AJH:mi
cc: Jack Chestnut





Upper Great Lakes Pilots, Inc.

DISTRICT 3, GREAT LAKES PILOTAGE—LAKES SUPERIOR, HURON & MICHIGAN
1250 PORT TERMINAL DRIVE, DULUTH, MINN. 55802 · PHONE 218-722-1425

June 10, 1975

The Honorable Edward Weinfeld
c/o Mr. Ronald S. Rogart
U.S. Probation Officer
U.S. District Court
207 U.S. Court House, Room 204 E
Foley Square
New York, New York 10007

Dear Judge Weinfeld:

I respectfully request that you consider this letter as my petition on behalf of Jack L. Chestnut when you make your deliberations prior to passing sentence on him at the end of this month.

I met Jack Chestnut in 1963; he was a young lawyer commencing practice and I had just formed the Lakes Pilots Association, which provided pilotage services to foreign vessels entering the Great Lakes above DeTour, Michigan. The Lakes Pilots Association has since become the Upper Great Lakes Pilots, Inc., and has extended its pilotage area to include Lakes Huron, Michigan and Superior, and the St. Mary's River passage - in fact, it is the largest single pilotage area in the world and is serviced by an organization of 22 United States and 8 Canadian pilots.

I am proud to be president of this organization and wish to tell you that the pilots of this district as an entity, and myself individually, feel greatly indebted to Jack Chestnut for our livelihoods' and our company's survival. He has been with us since the beginning, through the good times and bad times. We are a body of ex-sea and lake captains who provide a significant service to the economy of the north country. We are not businessmen, nor are we lawyers; our job is to move ships safely and efficiently from one point to another - we are adept at dealing with crises at sea, not on shore. Jack Chestnut has weathered our on-shore storms with us and brought us through safely and efficiently. He is an excellent businessman and administrator; he has a 'feel' for our special problems and spent several years in the U.S. Navy himself. He has fought our economic battles and won many; others are still in progress, and we need him to continue our cause. His legal skill and integrity are, in our opinion, unsurpassed. He has defended our causes and our cases

.../2



The Honorable Edward Weinfeld
New York, New York

June 10, 1975

in courts across the land, he has taken our problems to the seat of our nation's government and maintained the dignity and respect of our organization through hostility and disagreement. He has always dealt honestly and fairly with us, with our friends and with our enemies, and has many times directed a reasonable and fair course of action through difficult or seemingly impossible situations.

Jack Chestnut has been convicted of a felony. I cannot personally believe him guilty of more than an unintentional error in judgement; however, his trial is now over and it becomes your duty, Your Honor, to pass sentence upon Jack at the end of this month, thereby inflicting punishment upon him.

He is my friend - indeed, he is my best friend; his service, skill and understanding are crucial to my business. He and his family have experienced the rigors of our country's politics and judiciary, and they have not emerged unscathed.

Again, Your Honor, I respectfully request that you consider my opinions as expressed in this letter and the concerned hopes of every member of this pilot organization that Jack Chestnut may be free to be productive and to continue to work with us.

Please consider the option of leniency vested in your office - a disposition to be merciful.

Very truly yours,
UPPER GREAT LAKES PILOTS, INC.

A. F. Rico

Captain A. F. Rico,
President

jdb



ROBERT O. ASHBACH
SENATOR 48TH DISTRICT
1505 LAKE JOHANNA BOULEVARD
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55112



COMMITTEES
FINANCE
GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS
METROPOLITAN AND URBAN AFFAIRS

State of Minnesota

SENATE

June 12, 1975

The Honorable Edward Weinfeld
c/o Mr. Ronald S. Rogart
U. S. Probation Officer
U. S. District Court
207 U. S. Court House, Room 204E
Foley Square
New York, New York 10007

Dear Mr. Weinfeld:

Jack Chestnut
St. Paul, Minnesota

I am writing to you because of my high regard for Jack Chestnut, who is my neighbor, business associate and also a fellow civic activity worker.

My experience and my relationship with Mr. Chestnut have been extensive, and I have nothing but praise and admiration for the civic work and leadership he has shown in our community. As far as I am concerned, he is a man of integrity and hard work.

I want you to know that the overwhelming majority of people admire him for what he has stood for in our community. It is our hope that his good record can be maintained.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert O. Ashbach".

Robert O. Ashbach

ROA:rh





Minnesota Agri-Growth Council, Inc.

2950 METRO DRIVE, BLOOMINGTON, MN 55420 • PHONE (612) 854-6298

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Legal Counsel and Secretary
JACK L. CHESTNUT

June 12, 1975

Honorable Edward Weinfeld
c/o Mr. Ronald Rogart
U.S. Probation Officer
U.S. District Court
207 U.S. Court House
Room 204 E - Foley Square
New York, NY 10007

Dear Judge:

DIRECTORS:

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ROBERT RUPP
Editor, Farmer Magazine

LEE WOODRUFF
Green Giant Co.

JIM HILL
Assistant to the President

MIKE SHEY
Membership Chairman

It has been with real deep concern that I have followed the events relating to Jack Chestnut.

I served as State of Minnesota's Commissioner of Agriculture from 1964 to 1969. During this five year period Jack Chestnut was a Special Assistant Attorney General assigned to the Dairy Unfair Trade Practices Section of the Department. He is also my private attorney, personal friend and hunting companion. In 1970 I served as Chairman of Farmers for Humphrey during his election to the U.S. Senate. During this time I was exposed to AMPI people and the workings of the total campaign.

At no time did I observe any irregularities. Also based on my personal experience with Mr. Chestnut I have always found him to be a man of the highest character, deep and honorable convictions. His advice to me has always demonstrated a real dedication to the laws of our land. It is impossible for me to accept that he knowingly would participate in any program or business transaction that would in any way be in violation of the law.

I and my family place our utmost trust and personal faith in his honesty and integrity. I am proud to be his friend and want to respectfully urge you to accept this letter in the good faith in which it was sent.

Sincerely,

Russel Schwandt
President

RS:cp



State of Minnesota
Hennepin County Court
Government Center
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55487



CHAMBERS
NEIL A. RILEY
CHIEF JUDGE

June 10, 1975

Honorable Edward Weinfeld
U. S. District Court
207 U. S. Court House, Room 204 E
New York, New York 10007

Dear Judge Weinfeld:

As a lifelong Republican my observations of Jack Chestnut have been from the other side of Minnesota's political "fence". However, I yield to no one in my admiration for him.

While stationed in the Pentagon in 1944, I first became interested in politics and worked evenings in the office of an outstanding senator, Joe Ball, as a volunteer. I participated in a wide variety of Republican projects for the next 20 years on both the local and national levels. They included investigation of vote frauds in Illinois and Missouri, commuting from Minneapolis to work on a Congressional campaign in Chicago and various other Republican activities in a number of states. I also served as a lobbyist for various organizations such as the Minnesota Library Association in Minnesota.

In these year I observed the types of individual involved in politics. Many were young lawyers attracted by the combative aspects who could still afford to contribute their time. Of these, three of the finest were alumni of Fritz Mondale's staff as Attorney General: Jack Chestnut, Bill Brooks and Bill Kennedy.

One of the things for which Minnesotans are proud is the legal caliber of their lawyer-politicians. Included are such men as Harold Stassen, Warren Burger, Ed Devitt, George MacKinnon, Orville Freeman, Lee Loevinger and scores of others.

Although personal involvement in politics ceased with my election in 1964, the subject was a constant one in nightly sessions I frequently attended. The forum is a round table in a pub across from our court house, Russell's.



Honorable Edward Weinfeld
June 10, 1975
Page 2

The participants are all trial lawyers and judges. Essentially we gather together to exchange ideas on a wide variety of law related topics, including evaluation of our brethren. The "book" is available there on any lawyer in Minnesota for aptitude, diligence and integrity. Among these peers Jack Chestnut's reputation is the highest.

I have little or no tolerance for the individual who seeks to enrich himself by ripping off another in our society. However, that in no sense is the charge for which Chestnut has been found guilty. Whatever the facts may have been, at worst he could only have been attempting to assist a candidate in whose merits he believed and who has never enjoyed the financial backing to sit in on prohibitively expensive modern campaigns.

Jack and his family have already suffered tremendously. I would plead for any consideration of minimizing their further agony.

Sincerely,

Neil A. Riley
Neil A. Riley

NAR:ec



WALTER M. BAKER
WILLIAM G. BALE
CHARLES A. BASSFORD, JR.
RICHARD J. GUNN
GEORGE C. MASTOR
ROBERT W. MATTSON
WAYNE H. OLSON
ALONZO B. SERAN
JACK A. ROSBERG

Law Offices MASTOR and MATTSON, Ltd.

315 PEAVEY BUILDING
730 SECOND AVENUE SOUTH
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55402
TELEPHONE 339-8846 AREA 612

June 13, 1975

The Honorable Edward Weinfeld
c/o Mr. Ronald S. Rogart
U.S. Probation Officer
U.S. District Court
207 U.S. Court House, Room 204 E
Foley Square
New York, New York

Dear Judge Weinfeld:

I first became acquainted with Jack Chestnut in June of 1959 when I was Chief Deputy Attorney General for the State of Minnesota. Jack Chestnut had just graduated from law school, and after an interview I recommended to the then Attorney General, Miles W. Lord, that he be hired as Special Examiner. He was so hired, and upon passage of the bar examination in October of 1959 he was appointed the Special Assistant Attorney General and assigned to the Department of Taxation.

When Walter F. Mondale assumed the duties as Attorney General in 1960, Jack Chestnut was assigned to the main office as attorney for a number of state agencies. One of such assignments was to assist the Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture in the enforcement of the Dairy Industry's Unfair Trade Practices Act, and upon leaving the office of Attorney General he was appointed specially by Attorney General Mondale to continue to serve in that capacity. He also served in such capacity under my appointment while I was Attorney General during the years 1964 to 1967.

More recently I have associated with Jack Chestnut in antitrust litigation. We have represented plaintiffs in alleged price fixing of drugs and liquor products.

I have known Jack Chestnut personally and professionally since 1959 and his law firm since its inception in the early 1960's and consider that both exhibit high quality legal service. While his law firm, and Jack Chestnut in particular, has given service to the community in civic and



The Honorable Edward Weinfeld
page 2

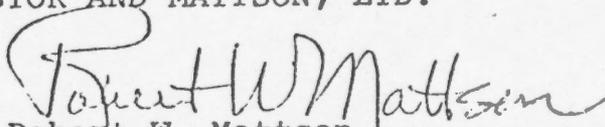
June 13, 1975

political work these were labors of love and did not affect or diminish the quality of the legal services performed. Jack Chestnut is an excellent attorney with a fine reputation for dealing with all parties in a fair, ethical and honest manner, whether it be in legal or political matters.

Very truly yours,

MASTOR AND MATTSON, LTD.

By


Robert W. Mattson

RWM:av



State of Minnesota
Hennepin County Municipal Court
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415



CHAMBERS
PETER J. LINDBERG
JUDGE

June 10, 1975

Honorable Edward Weinfeld
U. S. Court House
Foley Square
New York, New York 10007

Dear Judge Weinfeld:

This letter is in aid of your presentence investigation of Jack Chestnut. Jack is a friend and former colleague. I will not dwell on much of Jack's personal history which you will receive from other sources. Jack is not a politician who happens to be a lawyer but a very hard working practicing lawyer who became deeply involved in the political process over the years.

Prior to my appointment to the bench I practiced law and for several years engaged in extensive lobbying activities for various clients before the Minnesota Legislature. Jack also had several clients with legislative problems and over the last eight to ten years we often worked in concert on mutual problems of our clients.

Lobbying is an art that requires a skilled practitioner who is familiar with legislative rules, legislative drafting requirements and the ability to clearly state legislative intent in drafts of proposed legislation. Jack is highly skilled and accomplished in all these areas of concern. Further, it requires an ability to deal extensively with many diverse personalities of all political persuasions. Despite Jack's obvious party affiliation he was able to work very effectively for his clients' causes.

A man's word is his bond in the lobbying fraternity. In the eight years that Jack and I crossed paths and worked together I have never known him to renege on his word, do other than he states his intent to be, nor to otherwise cause any person dealing with him to pause in the slightest in their dealings with him.

I have observed the fruits of his labor in form of legislation, and it has been clear, lucid and has withstood the test of time and the tests of the courts.



Jack is a very competent attorney who is an asset to his community.

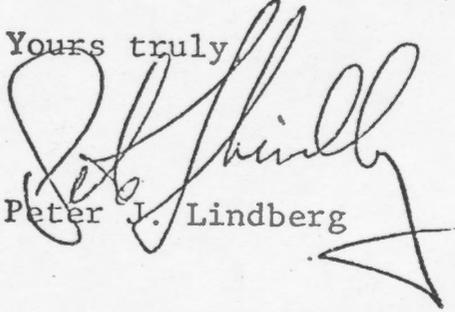
In addition to my dealings with Jack, I am a close friend of one of his many clients who has had nothing but high praise for him as he dealt with his problems over the years.

Jack's conviction will be grounds for suspension of his license to practice law in Minnesota. For a lawyer of his standing in the community this is in and of itself an extremely severe penalty.

Jack is a hard working practicing attorney who has a highly commendable personal history, and if at all possible is deserving of a stayed or suspended sentence. The record before you relating to Jack's personal life and history will bear this out.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours truly


Peter J. Lindberg



UPPER LAKES PILOTS ASSOCIATION

DISTRICT 3

Chartered by
International Longshoremen's Association

Duluth, Minnesota
June 12, 1975

OPERATING TERRITORY

LAKES — HURON, MICHIGAN, SUPERIOR AND
CONNECTING TRIBUTARY WATERS AND
HARBORS ADJACENT THERETO.

PRESIDENT

CAPT. ERLING KOLLER
809 N.E. 19TH TERRACE
FT. LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA 33304

The Hon. Edw. Weinfeld
U. S. Dist. Court
Foley Square
New York, New York

VICE PRESIDENT

CAPT. C. G. PORTER
1739 DUNEDIN AVENUE
DULUTH, MINNESOTA 55803

Dear Sir,

EXECUTIVE SEC'Y.-TREASURER

CAPT. CLELLAND A. GIBSON
2124 EAST FIFTH STREET
DULUTH, MINNESOTA 55812

For those of us who have been attracted to the events of our times and either through business association or friendship, or both, suddenly find ourselves in a position to speak out on behalf of one who for the moment is swept into the precarious area of judgement by other people. I deem it the highest privilege to do so for Jack Chestnut.

TRUSTEES

CAPT. LEWIS A. GILBERT
RFD NO. 2 - RIVERSIDE DRIVE
OGDENSBURG, NEW YORK 13669

CAPT. MARTIN FORTHOVER
3937 TROWBRIDGE AVENUE
CLEVELAND, OHIO 44109

CAPT. BLAIR A. COOK
7768 BEACH ROAD
LEXINGTON, MICHIGAN 48450

Although I am not familiar with the various aspects of Mr. Chestnut's and the Courts case I would like to pass along these feelings I have about Jack.

MARSHAL

CAPT. JAMES J. DARROW
1275 SOUTH SHORE DRIVE
HOLLAND, MICHIGAN 49423

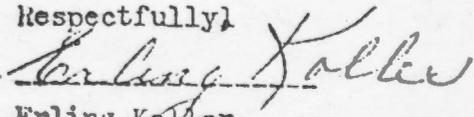
I have known Mr. Chestnut about ten years and during this period have had many rewarding moments observing his efforts while he not only defended our organization and system but also the structure of our society, our Country and it's institutions.

Jack is one of the breed of men who more than ever our Country desperately needs.

Our group has drawn from his vast fund of knowledge and insight whereby we have been counseled through periods of stress in many highly complex situations of international relations. Some that are so confounding that they defy solution short of war.

All of the Pilots join me in submitting this request: That you use this letter and it's substance to temper the judgement of the jury and aid in arriving at a reasonable and sensible solution to this case.

Respectfully,


Erling Koller
Pres. 106 444
Upper Lakes Pilots Ass.



Paul Rexford Thatcher
Mooney Lake
Box 004, Route 2
Wayzata, Minnesota

June 16, 1975

The Honorable Edward Weinfeld
Judge of District Court
United States Court House
New York, New York 10007

Dear Judge Weinfeld:

RE: Jack L. Chestnut

I am writing you in regard to the pre-sentence investigation of Jack L. Chestnut that you have ordered.

Mr. Chestnut has been well and favorably known to me since 1959 when he served as Special Assistant Attorney General of the State of Minnesota during the term of office of Senator Walter F. Mondale, then Attorney General.

I am a 40-year old businessman who has been involved at all levels of Democratic politics since childhood. My involvement out-of-Minnesota National Democratic Politics began with the 1960 Presidential Campaign and continues through each succeeding campaign to the present time. During the last 15 years, my principal political activities have been as a fund raiser and contributor. I served as the National Treasurer of the Committee for the Nomination of Hubert H. Humphrey, Inc. in 1972.

During 1969 and 1970, while Mr. Chestnut was the Manager of the campaign Senator Hubert H. Humphrey was then waging for the United States Senate, I was one of the two or three persons responsible for the successful, first-term campaign of Governor Wendell R. Anderson of Minnesota. As a non-incumbent facing serious competition for the



The Honorable
Edward Weinfeld

-2-

June 16, 1975

Democratic party endorsement, a primary election contest, and a tough Republican challenge in the general election by a well known and highly regarded incumbent Attorney General, the ultimate success of Mr. Anderson's campaign was considered doubtful. In contrast, Senator Humphrey was considered a shoo-in throughout the same period of time and enjoyed the almost unanimous support of the party and financial contributors. Indeed, money was so easily raised by Senator Humphrey's Campaign, that substantial sums were given to Governor Anderson's Campaign, other state-wide Democratic Office seekers, and even state legislative candidates. (Such sharing of funds in political campaigns in Minnesota was unknown prior to that time.)

The ease with which Senator Humphrey raised funds for his 1970 Senate race was never present in the 1972 Presidential Campaign. We were broke throughout! Our principal concerns during the campaign were lack of money, threatening creditors, and fear of bank overdrafts. Despite the awful pressures imposed by lack of funds, Mr. Chestnut seemingly daily admonished me to be diligent in applying the highest ethical standards to every undertaking. In our daily, intimate, and confidential relationship during that campaign, Mr. Chestnut never evidenced any variance from the application of the high ethical code he consistently demanded of others.

May I remind you, sir, that during the approximately nine-month Presidential campaign that we waged in 1971 and 1972, two-third's of that period was prior to the April 7, 1972, implementation of the Election Campaign Reform Act of 1971 and all of it before the "post-Watergate" morality was postulated and retroactively applied. I can only conclude that Mr. Chestnut's unfailing high ethical conduct in the 1972 Presidential campaign was because it was right.

Though my faith in our judicial process continues, I find it difficult to reconcile the jury's finding of guilt in



The Honorable
Edward Weinfeld

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June 16, 1975

Mr. Chestnut's conduct of the 1970 Senatorial Campaign (in which there was so much available funds that ancient Minnesota precedent was broken in sharing of political funds) with my intimate knowledge of Mr. Chestnut's highly ethical conduct of the 1972 Presidential Campaign that was starved for money throughout.

I believe that I have a special perspective to offer for your prior consideration in the sentencing of Mr. Chestnut. I thank you for the opportunity to present it and your courtesy in giving it such regard as you deem appropriate in the circumstances.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul R. Thatcher



June 12, 1975

The Honorable Edward Weinfeld
c/o Mr. Ronald S. Rogart
U.S. Probation Officer
U.S. District Court
207 U.S. Court House, Room 204 E
Folcy Square
New York, New York 10007

Dear Judge Weinfeld:

I am writing this letter in behalf of Jack L. Chestnut, who will be appearing before your court later this month for sentencing.

I would like to cover specific areas of personal contact, as I feel it necessary to give you some insight into a man that I feel can be easily misjudged or misunderstood unless you know him.

To give you some background on myself, I have over 15 years service in the Minnesota State Patrol, currently serving as Chief of Criminal Investigations, Capitol Security Division of the State Patrol. Since 1968, I have served as a labor and legislative representative of the State Patrol Officers Association. It is this police and labor background that has brought me into contact with Mr. Chestnut.

In 1967, the Chestnut Law Firm was retained by our association to assist us in a labor matter involving prejudicial treatment against the only black member of the State Patrol. The successful outcome of this case, I feel, was brought about by our counsel's strong belief in upholding the rights of the individual concerned. Since that time he has handled other cases for our association and for individual members and is presently preparing to represent us in an issue involving alcohol dependency.

As a legislative representative of our association, I have had considerable contact with Mr. Chestnut. I have shared with many lobbyists, the feeling that he is a highly capable, honest, and well respected spokesman. His firm has for years, successfully fought the passage of special interest legislation which would have increased the costs of products and services for those on fixed incomes who could least afford these increases. His position was shared by every police and labor union in the state on this issue.

In the 1970 Senate campaign, I had considerable contact with Mr. Chestnut. It was a gruelling task to lead such a campaign, more than anyone who has not been involved can imagine. It was hard on him and equally on his family. With so many people and personalities involved, I always felt he was fair and just, his criticism constructive, and his praise an honest expression.



The Honorable Edward Binfield
Page 2
June 12, 1975

As a police officer, I have strong feelings of support for our judicial system and feel that Jack has worked for the better understanding and respect of this system in the eight years I have known him. I feel he has still more to offer.

I would like to thank you for taking time to read this letter, and hope that I have touched on some areas which can be of assistance to you in rendering your decision.

Sincerely,



Robert P. Richards

4949 Hanson Road
St. Paul, MN 55112



June 11, 1975

Honorable Judge Edward Weinfield
% Ronald Rogart
U.S. Probation Officer
U.S. District Court
207 U.S. Court House
Foley Square
New York, New York, 10007

Sir:

I am writing to you in regard to Mr. Jack Chestnut hoping that I may be able to help you know him as I have.

My name is Frank Rog. I serve the community that I live in as the Director of Parks and Recreation. I have served in this capacity for the past fifteen years. We have a very active Park and Recreation program involving thousands of persons and hundreds of acres of park land. There are 38,000 persons in the City of Roseville, a first tier suburb touching on Minneapolis and St. Paul.

I recall the day I met Mr. Chestnut back in 1961. He was an active member of the Roseville Jaycees and I was invited to attend my first Jaycee meeting. Jack took special care of introducing himself to me and followed up with introducing me to all the other people in the group. He did this in such a way that I truly felt a part of the organization from the start. That group turned into the most active of all civic organizations--promoting more projects than any group before or since that time. Mr. Chestnut's efforts were instrumental in the formation of and follow up of these projects.

Jack and I played on the same softball team for six years, the same volleyball team for 7 years. I have never known Jack to be anything but a most honest and understanding person on the field of play. He always played his best but was able to accept defeat with a smile. He was, and still is, the kind of person you could always count on. He would attend the games even if it meant driving in from a northern vacation or having his wife pick him up at the airport with sport clothes in hand. He would change at the airport and show up for the game.

Jack and I have become even better acquainted through a unique project which was initiated chiefly through his efforts. The organization for this project is called the Central Park Foundation. Its sole function is to



Its sole function is to develop a large 220 ac park through donations of money or services. Jack is the person who drew up the original by-laws and constitution and guided the program through many pitfalls to where it is now recognized by the National Parks and Recreation Association as one of the best community involvement projects in the nation. Jack was invited to Washington by the N.P.R.A. to make a presentation to persons from throughout the nation looking for ways of developing parks without raising taxes. (Copy of presentation enclosed). Since this presentation, the Roseville project has been used as an example in a publication put out by the NPRA (copy enclosed) on how to accomplish this. Jack was primarily responsible for guiding this program--not so much in the limelight, but behind the scenes, letting other persons accept the glory. He has spent many hundreds of hours during the past 14 years attending meetings and promoting functions. He and his wife, Karen, even after they had moved from our city to a neighboring community, have remained extremely active in the Central Park Foundation.

Jack shows a great deal of compassion as is evidenced in his personally promoting a successful testimonial dinner for Mr. Alan Page. Mr. Page was selected as the most valuable player in the National Football League and was not receiving proper recognition. Jack personally formulated a committee of his friends; forty or fifty persons were invited to a dinner at Charlie's Cafe Exceptionale--and the necessary groundwork was laid to show our appreciation to a black athlete who had excelled on the football field. Jack covered all expenses for that first gathering and the many meetings that followed. Honor and recognition were bestowed upon a great ballplayer only because Jack saw the need and did what was necessary.

I can only reflect to you how I have known Jack. My memories are of him installing playground equipment, raking fields, planting trees, playing ball, always working hard and efficiently in all projects, large or small, doing the job as a leader or worker. I was proud to see him active on a national level in politics. He was kind of a small town boy who made good--yet his personality remained unchanged.

I feel it would be damaging for all the persons who have worked with Jack to have him be issued a severe sentence for this unfortunate mess of which he is accused. He and his family have already suffered. His wife is not as active as I believe it's embarrassing for her to be out in public. The children are taking it hard as other children have a tendency to be cruel.

Jack is the type of person who must provide service to humanity. I'm sure that's why he is a lawyer. He could have made an excellent Recreation Director of Minister. He loves to serve--his family, his community and his country. He was selected by Senator Humphrey to be his campaign manager. He was proud to be asked and accepted the challenge and did a good job. I am sure he was selected because he is a great deal like the senator--a hard, conscientious, efficient, tireless worker.

If purpose gives meaning to life, I feel that Jack's purpose is evidently to serve. Please don't take that opportunity from him as I feel he has contributed many wonderful things in his short life and could continue to do so.

Sincerely yours,

Frank J. Rog
FRANK J. ROG,
Director of Parks and Recreation

FJR/bf



HAROLD J. *Slawik*

PROPERTIES

A DIVISION OF HAR-MAR, INCORPORATED



MIDWAY FORD BUILDING - 1850 UNIVERSITY AVE.

646-7578

SAINT PAUL, MINN. 55104

June 12, 1975

The Honorable Edward Weinfeld
c/o Mr. Ronald S. Rogart
U. S. Probation Officer
U.S. District Court
207 U. S. Court House, Room 204 E
Foley Square
New York, New York 10007

Your Honor:

I am prompted to write this letter to you because of the concern I feel based upon the respect, admiration and loyalty I have for a friend. All too seldom do people come to the support of such friends.

You have been hearing the case of Jack Chestnut - a person of fine reputation in our Twin Cities Metropolitan area. Many of us are most saddened by facts supplied to us by the news media alone. He has been given what we believe to be a fair American trial - by twelve of his peers --- but may I presume to tell you about Jack Chestnut - the man?

I have known Jack Chestnut for many years and have worked side by side with him on civic and community projects which benefit the citizens in our community. In 1963 Jack Chestnut was given an assignment by the Roseville elected officials (a suburb of Saint Paul, Minn.), to convince me to be chairman of the Roseville Central Park Foundation. He did convince me! Through the years, since then, I have been president of this Foundation whose purpose it is to develop, without tax dollars, a 225 acre recreational and athletic park in Roseville, Minnesota. Jack has served as Vice-President of this Foundation until a year ago. He also served as General Chairman of a very special Ball function which raises quite a sum each year to help develop the park!



June 12, 1975

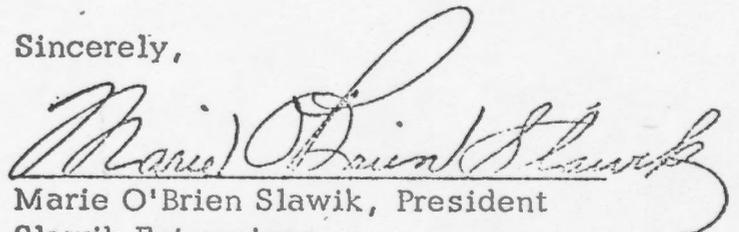
So that you will not think I am a casual neighbor, a distant relative of Jack Chestnut's - or someone who has nothing but time on her hands to call or write about almost anything - I should like to introduce myself as a very busy business woman who, since the death of my husband in 1962, has had quite a full schedule of holding all of his various enterprises together in order that our some 200 employees could continue to have the same security my late husband provided. I am deeply embroiled in Civic and Community activities, and presently serve as a director on the Board of the Saint Paul Area Chamber of Commerce along with a myriad of other community oriented projects. For the past two years I have been Chairman of the Admissions and Allocations Committee of the United Way of the Saint Paul area.

Your Honor, I am not "blowing my horn" -- I only recite these few assignments so that you may determine that my background holds some substance. I have high moral values - and I seek and expect the same in my friends. Jack Chestnut is a friend - and my appraisal of him is a high one.

So then - my purpose for writing to you today is to ask that human understanding be given you in your decision as to what the price or penalty will be concerning Jack Chestnut. He is, and always has been, a good family man - much loved and respected in our community.

Thank you for the time you took to read this.

Sincerely,



Marie O'Brien Slawik, President
Slawik Enterprises

Mrs. Slawik/pd
Encl.

