

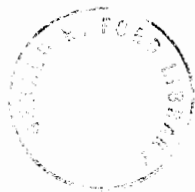
**The original documents are located in Box C24, folder “Presidential Handwriting, 7/12/1975” of the Presidential Handwriting File at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

### **Copyright Notice**

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material. Gerald Ford donated to the United States of America his copyrights in all of his unpublished writings in National Archives collections. Works prepared by U.S. Government employees as part of their official duties are in the public domain. The copyrights to materials written by other individuals or organizations are presumed to remain with them. If you think any of the information displayed in the PDF is subject to a valid copyright claim, please contact the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

Digitized from Box C24 of The Presidential Handwriting File at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library  
**FOR STAFF SECRETARY'S FILES.** —

**President retained original.**



~~EE~~

Edward Bennett Williams  
1000 Hill Building  
Washington, D. C. 20006

July 12, 1975

Dear Mr. President,

I was flattered and deeply moved to hear from Don Rumsfeld that you thought of me for a position of the highest public trust. It will always be a source of private inner pride to me. I hope and trust that

Don told you that  
I anguished through  
the night over my  
response. I have long  
coveted public service  
and it would be a  
source of great satis-  
faction for me to  
serve our country with  
you. The bottom line  
was that I think I  
know myself better  
than you do Don,  
and whatever talents  
I may have would  
not be prudently  
or wisely expended

Edward Bennett Williams  
1000 Hill Building  
Washington, D. C. 20006

in a position for  
which I am truly  
not well suited.

I thank you for  
your consideration.  
As always you have  
my warmest regards  
and affection.

Respectfully,

E B