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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 16, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

JOHN O. MARSH

This evening, you will be meeting with three Delegates from the 9th Congressional District of Virginia. This is Bill Wampler's District and it is the area where we have had the problem on the Judgeship. These Delegates all wanted Williams to be the Judge. You have submitted the name of Tom Wilson from the 7th District.

Judge Tyler advised me Friday that he is certain Wilson will not receive ABA clearances. Also, the Department of Justice has received some expressions of concern about Wilson from seated Judges (probably Dalton and Turk) who do not believe that Wilson will be available to hold court in Abdington where there are a number of Black Lung cases now pending. Therefore, it seems certain Wilson will not get clearance from the Department of Justice.

One of the Delegates - Teddy Bailey, a County Clerk of Court - is a little provoked at me because I was rather firm with him in defending your selection process.

At the White House reception for the Virginia Delegation, Bailey started giving me a hard time by saying that everyone was upset in that area because you had not selected Williams. I pointed out to him that people in that area should remember what you had done for that area by vetoing the strip mining bill which affected the entire economy and probably saved hundreds of jobs before getting upset over one personnel appointment. I pointed out the heat you had taken nationally in the face of tremendous pressure on an issue that directly benefitted that area. I happen to know that Williams has talked to Bailey on your behalf in an effort to be helpful. It is believed that Bailey really is for Reagan and is trying to use the Williams appointment as a reason not to support you.

As a final note, Bailey and the other Delegates said that a number of letters and communications sent to the White House by supporters of Williams were never responded to. I have checked on this and unfortunately have determined that there were 133 letters and other communications which were neither acknowledged nor answered on this Judgeship.

The Delegates may mention to you that they were told by someone at the White House or PFC that if Poff didn't get the appointment, you would select Glenn Williams. No person was authorized to make such promise if one was made.

There is great danger in any impressions being made in this meeting that a promise is made to name Williams in exchange for votes. Therefore, care is necessary to avoid any promise, expressor implied.