

## COLSON & SHAPIRO

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SIDNEY DICKSTEIN  
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CHARLES W. COLSON  
WILLIAM J. O'HARA\*  
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PETER A. AMBROSINI\*  
KENNETH L. ADAMS  
M. J. MINTZ  
ALAN B. PICK\*  
\*(NOT ADM. IN D. C.)

December 19, 1973

J. Fred Buzhardt, Esquire  
Special Assistant to the President  
Room 188 1/2  
Executive Office Building  
Washington, D.C.

Re: Charles W. Colson

Dear Mr. Buzhardt:

In the event Mr. Colson is indicted and prosecuted in connection with the Fielding break-in, it is my view that he will have to testify in his own defense concerning the national security matters which provided the impetus for the actions of the White House Special Investigations Unit.

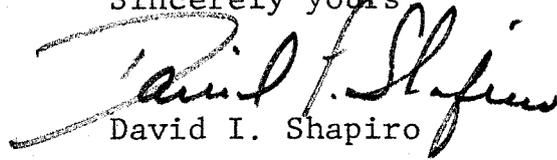
Mr. Colson has told me that he has had several conversations with you on this subject and that you and he have discussed some of the national security considerations relating to the release of the Pentagon Papers, the knowledge and activities of Dr. Ellsberg, and related matters that were of concern to the Special Investigations Unit. Mr. Colson has repeatedly refused to relate these conversations to me or to discuss with me in any detail information of which he is aware in these matters. This, of course, complicates my task in representing him. I understand the fact, however, that he is not at liberty to disclose certain things even to me.

Nonetheless, the Special Prosecutor is considering possible prosecutions with respect to the activities of the Special Investigations Unit. I would, therefore, appreciate

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receiving the instructions of your office and of the Department of Justice as to the restrictions on Mr. Colson's ability to testify as to national security matters of which he is aware and specifically whether his doing so would place him in any jeopardy of criminal prosecution under 18 U.S.C. §793 and related statutes.

Sincerely yours

  
David I. Shapiro

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February 5, 1974

J. Fred Buzhardt, Esquire  
Counsel to the President  
Room 106  
Executive Office Building  
Washington, D.C.

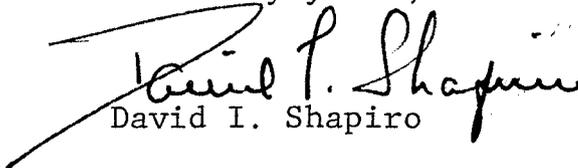
Re: Charles W. Colson

Dear Mr. Buzhardt:

Some time ago I requested that you discuss with Mr. Jaworski the particular national security considerations referred to in my letter to you of December 19, 1973. You said you would be willing to do so but only with Mr. Jaworski and not with any other member of the Watergate Special Prosecution Force.

Since, from what I can determine, these matters may be crucial to Mr. Jaworski's deliberations in connection with the pre-indictment phase of the Ellsberg case, I again urge that you inform Mr. Jaworski precisely what these national security considerations are.

Sincerely yours,

  
David I. Shapiro

DIS/tcc

cc: Honorable Leon Jaworski  
Special Prosecutor  
  
William J. Merrill, Esquire

*Memo from*

CHARLES W. COLSON

March 5, 1974

Fred:

I thought you might like for your files a statement I intended to give last Friday were it not for the gag rule.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Chuck', written in a cursive style.

Chuck

Statement of Charles W. Colson, Esq.  
March 1, 1974

I am shocked to be included in the Watergate indictment. Only a few weeks ago, Mr. Jaworski told me that I would not be included unless his staff obtained a great deal more evidence involving me. I am not aware of any new evidence.

It appears that a principal reason for my indictment is the allegation that I promised or sought clemency for Howard Hunt. I thought -- apparently incorrectly -- that I had persuaded the Special Prosecutor that this charge is untrue. I submitted to an independent polygraph examination which supports the truthfulness of my statements denying the clemency allegation. I understand further that Mr. Jaworski has listened to the tapes of conversations between the President and myself on the critical dates in question, January 3 and 4, which tapes contain no discussion of clemency.

In any event, the charges are untrue and I know that my innocence will be established. Despite the difficulty of assuring a fair trial on such charges in times when passions run so high and media coverage is so intense, I have confidence that our judicial system can rise to the challenge and the truth cannot be suppressed.

The American public has not -- by a long shot -- had all of the facts regarding Watergate. There have been developments uncovered in recent weeks that I have not been free to discuss.

In the course of my defense, there will be important new information disclosed that may very significantly affect the course of this trial and, more importantly, the public's knowledge of what really happened. I am advised by counsel that I cannot, at this time, say more.

When I left the Government, I was privileged to join a long established law firm of the first rank. Neither the members of the firm nor I had any reason to foresee what has befallen me during the last year. Though many of the members and employees of the firm do not share my politics, every one of them has stood by me through the crescendo of charges. This development, however, makes it unfair for me to continue as a member of this firm and burden it with the continued adverse publicity associated with this case. I have, therefore, asked for and have been granted a leave of absence. The firm will continue its practice under the name of Dickstein, Shapiro and Morin.

I have spent over half my adult life serving my country. I have been proud to have served as an officer in the United States Marine Corps, proud to have served Leverett Saltonstall, one of the finest and most honorable Senators of the United States and above all, proud to have served a man whom I believe history will record as one of the greatest and most courageous of our Presidents. Like most human beings, I have made my share of mistakes but during the time I served, I have always done my duty as I saw it. My conscience is clear and I pray that the conscience of the Prosecutor is also clear. Regardless of how rough the road ahead may be, I know that in the end the truth will prevail because I put complete faith in God and I believe deeply in my country.

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