Committee to Investigate the Administration of Justice

Hearing Dates

March 16, 1973

Robert S. Dracup Lee Schwartz
John Benjamin Sherr Thaddeus Rickards Mrs. Julia Waller Joseph Monahan Miss Jill Karen Kauler Bell Telephone Company Photo Research, Inc. George Washington Motor Lodge George Washington Motor Lodge George Washington Motor Lodge George Washington Motor Lodge George Washington Motor Lodge

March 21, 1973

William D. McCuin David Greth

SIC, Inc.
Former Sales Manager for
George Washington Motor Lodge

April 4, 1973

Harry E. Kapleau Lt. Col. Joseph Dussia Joseph Tenetylo Clarence E. Barnes Milk Marketing Board Pennsylvania State Police Bell Telephone Company Bell Telephone Company

April 12, 1973

Rocco P. Urella

Frank Ertz Robert R. Reynolds Former Commissioner
Pennsylvania State Police
Bell Telephone Company
Bell Telephone Company

April 26, 1973

Lieutenant Herman J. Faiola Stephen Luchansky

Pennsylvania State Police Former Lieutenant Pennsylvania State Police Gerald T. DeWalt Stephen J. Luchansky

PSP Trooper (presently under suspension) Former Lieutenant - PSP

May 4, 1973 (continued from May 3)

J. Shane Creamer Lieutenant Richard Weimer

Former Attorney General Pennsylvania State Police

May 18, 1973

(2)

8

(Executive Session)

Marion Gobrecht

May 18, 1973

Lieutenant John J. McKenna

Pennsylvania State Police

May 25, 1973

Kathryn Crankfield Metro Kardash John Robert Law Rocco P. Urella

Receptionist - PSP Headquarters Former Corporal - PSP

Former Commissioner - PSP

June 7, 1973

Colonel James D. Barger Robert Zinsky

Commissioner, Penna. State Police Secretary-Treasurer State Police Civic Association

June 8, 1973

Rocco P. Urella William D. Taylor Walter F. Junkins Sergeant Matthew E. Hunt

Former Commissioner, Penna. State Police

Former Security Officer, Agriculture Bldg. PSP - assigned to Crime Commission

June 22, 1973

Sergeant John W. Noel Sergeant Paul S. Capparell Corporal Joseph S. Yaskus George R. Hall John Gillen David Pickrell, Sr. Pennsylvania State Police Pennsylvania State Police Pennsylvania State Police Bethlehem Steel Company Gillen Coal Company Covington Township Supervisor

July 12, 1973

10

Francis St. C. O'Leary

General Counsel-Wheeling-Pittsburgh Steel Corporation

William Frantz

Frantz Advertising Inc.

Donald M. Hopkins (accompanied by legal counsel)

Corning Glass Company

Thomas Connolly Robert E. Baker

Better Business Bureau Better Business Bureau

Lawrence Swartz

J. L. Swartz Associates

John R. O'Keefe

(accompanied by legal counsel)

President

Fraternal Order of Police Fort Pitt Lodge #1

Albert Yobbi

Secretary

Fraternal Order of Police Fort Pitt Lodge #1

Lt. Colonel Joseph Dussia

President

State Police Civic Association

July 31, 1973

I. Todd Dobkins

President

Allied Block Chemical Company

David Student

President

Imperial Publishing Company

Herbert Halsband

President

Hal-Fran Associates

Michael McGurk	Treasurer - FOP Lodge #91
Charles Ford	
Charles Ford	Assistant Attorney General Department of State
Carol Cochran	Director
	Commission on Charitable Solicitations
October 18, 1973	
D 110	
Daniel Gross Carl S. Teets	Chief of Police - Sharon
Earle Sweikert	General Claims & Security Supervisor - Bel Captain - Harrisburg Police Department
Robert Bomboy.	Captain - Penna. State Police
Gerald Webster	Corporal - Penna. State Police
November 8, 1973	
Louis Packler	Retired - PSP
Angelo Carcaci	Lt PSP
November 14, 1973 (Executive)	
Angelo Carcaci	
November 28, 1973 (Executive)	
Stephen Milak	The Fox Companies
Mrs. Belle Tynon	West Village Apartments

December 5, 1973

(3

Angelo Carcaci Catherine Carcaci Robert Zinsky

Fiscal Officer $_$ PSP- Civic Association

January 15, 1974 (Executive)

John W. Shambach

Sgt. - Penna. State Police

January 25, 1974

Richard L. Thornburgh E. Drexel Godfrey

U. S. Attorney - Pittsburgh Director - Governor's Justice Commission

(B) MARCH 14 - HBG. Hope & TITLER.

(B) MARCH 24, PHILA. - FOP- FIL.

MEMORANDUM

TO:

The Honorable H. Joseph Hepford, Chairman

Committee to Investigate the Administation of Justice

FROM:

Mr. Downey Rice, Counsel

DATE:

March 12, 1973

SUBJECT:

COMPENSATION OF COMMITTEE WITNESSES

The attached is a memorandum from Ed Hussie on the above subject. Additionally, Ed has ascertained that the current compensation for witnesses in federal court is \$20.00 a day and 10¢ a mile.

In discussing this with you today, it was recommended that the federal schedule be adopted for committee purposes by your authorization, agreement by a majority of the committee, and incorporation in the minutes and perhaps the committee procedural memo that we have available for witnesses and/or the counsel.

You raised the question of the possibility that a witness might demand compensation prior to appearance. In that case, we would be inclined to work that out at the time of service, either by delivering cash or check to the witness and obtaining a receipt or agreeing to forward a check prior to time of appearance.

DR:rf

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Committee to Investigate the Administration of Justice

FROM:

î

Edward Hussie

DATE:

March 9, 1973

SUBJECT:

COMPENSATION OF WITNESSES

A. (1) The statutory witness fee for a person subpoenaed to testify before a legislative committee is \$5.00 per day and 7¢ per mile (28 P.S. 416.2, 416.4).

- (2) A witness, under the same act, may demand his fee for one day and for mileage at the time he is subpoenaed. Neither the language nor case law clarifies whether a witness, if he fails to demand compensation at the time of subpoena, may demand compensation at any time thereafter or must await reimbursement by the committee within a reasonable time thereafter. There are no cases determining whether failure by the committee to comply with a demand for compensation invalidates the subpoena or merely creates a cause of action in assumpsit.
- (3) The procedure for committee reimbursement of witnesses is as follows:

House Rule 50, governing public hearings by select committees, forbids the Chief Clerk to pay any expenses incurred as a result of a public hearing without the prior written approval of either the Speaker or the Majority Leader.

On February 5, an amendment was rejected by the House which would require approval by the Speaker of expenses incurred by the Committee.

House Resolution 21, P.N. 291, requires committee approval of necessary expenses, further providing that the expenses of the committee shall be paid upon vouchers approved by the chairman.

It would appear that the initial expense need not be approved by the Speaker but that the Speaker would be required to ratify in writing any expense for which the committee seeks reimbursement from the Chief Clerk, at the time such reimbursement is sought.

Committee to Investigate the Administration of Justice Re: Compensation of Witnesses – 2

Both the resolution and the committee rules (rule 2) authorize the chairman to issue subpoenas. It would not be unreasonable to conclude that the authority to issue the subpoena implies a a grant of authority by the committee to the chairman to incur expenses connected with the issuance of subpoenas in conformity with the mandatory statute rate. The safest course, however, would be for the committee to formally establish a rate of compensation for subpoenaed witnesses.

B. The statutory evolution of the schedule of compensation for subpoenaed witnesses before legislative committees is not without ambiguity. 46 P.S. 62, enacted in 1859, provides that a witness subpoenaed by a legislative committee must receive the same fees and mileage as witnesses in the case of contested elections.

25 P.S. 3468, enacted in 1937, regulating contested elections, provides that "witnesses and officers shall be paid the same fees as are now or hereafter shall be fixed by law for similar services in the county in which the trial shall be held."

If the above statute were applicable, the witness fee for the committee would be \$5.00 per day and 10¢ per mile. The closest parallel in Dauphin County, where the committee is located, would be the Commonwealth Court with statewide jurisdiction, which, therefore, regularly calls witnesses to Harrisburg from throughout the state. According to Frank Barbush, the Chief Clerk of the Court, the court witness schedule is \$5.00 per day and 10¢ per mile. According to Barbush, Judge Bowman based this schedule upon that utilized by the Court of Common Pleas of Dauphin County.

If another conflicting statute were applicable, the witness fee would be \$5.00 per day and 7¢ per mile (28 P.S. 416.2, 416.4). These rates were established in 1959 through amendment to the Uniform Compensation of Witnesses Act of 1941.

The 1941 act, since it is later in time than 46 P.S. 62, would repeal that act insofar as there is a direct conflict between the two.

The act of 1941 defines a witness as any person subpoenaed before any court of record, legislative body, or any committee appointed by a legislative body.

I have found no satisfactory explanation for the authority of the Commonwealth Court to establish a 10¢ mileage rate in lieu of the 7¢ rate provided for by statute. The courts in Pennsylvania have historically treated costs as a matter outside the scope of the common law.

In Steele v. Lineberger, 72 Pa. 239, involving an award of \$429.08 in final costs to a defendant, the court noted that at common law no final costs were recoverable. The court observed that the right to recover final costs depends entirely upon statute. In Walker v. Penna. R. R. Co., 151 Pa. Super.80, this principle was specifically applied to the compensation of witnesses.

cc: The Honorable H. Joseph Hepford

Mr. Downey Rice

Mr. James R. Malley

Frederal - Welin fel \$20.