

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE  
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

MEMORANDUM

By Dale S. Thompson

Date June 7, 1974

FILE: Governor's Justice Commission

In connection with the LEAA audit of the Governor's Justice Commission, dated April 25, 1973, I have reviewed pertinent grant files, as well as the extensive report prepared by the Governor's Justice Commission and sent to LEAA in Pennsylvania on November 21, 1973.

NEAL BERG, LEAA, is preparing an analysis and reply to the Governor's Justice Commission, however, it has not been completed and may not be released until the latter part of June or early July. He refused to discuss the position of LEAA on these various exceptions because his proposals had not been reviewed.

There were only two grants in the audit report which appeared to have any "meat" in terms of irregularities; the others are strictly routine items of no significant interest to this Committee. Comments on the two grants are set forth hereinafter.

1. The Pittsburgh Police Department was awarded Grant 70-DF-224 in the amount of \$146,984. The main thrust of this grant was to provide the City of Pittsburgh with a Deputy Director for Career Development. About \$125,000 of the grant was to be a subcontract to the University Research Corporation, Washington, D.C., specifically to develop a curriculum for in-service training and to conduct such training in a pilot police district in the City of Pittsburgh. The University Research Corporation failed to perform on this contract and a part of the monies due them was withheld. Apparently they never did satisfactorily produce.

When the Governor's Justice Commission learned of this, they called in LEAA and they worked very closely with officials of the city in reviewing the total grant and try and salvage anything possible.

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2. The City of Philadelphia was awarded Grant PH-010-70A in the amount of \$286,592 in order to hire 26 additional employees in the Defender Association of Philadelphia office for a one-year period from December 1, 1970 to November 30, 1971.

It is quite obvious that there still remains a very serious question as to whether the Defender Association of Philadelphia office really added 17 additional employees. There is indication that possibly only a couple of additional employees were added during the year in question. Nevertheless, the Governor's Justice Commission accepted certain information furnished by the Defender Association and, in effect, endorsed the position of the Defender Association and asked that the award be cleared by LEAA.

I asked JOHN SNAVELY how the Governor's Justice Commission could take the position in support of the grantee when in fact 26 additional employees were not hired for a full year. As an example: Four of the new employees came on duty in November 1971, the same month that the grant expired.

Mr. Berard's reply to Snavely is unsatisfactory. Mr. Snavely added to that reply the following:

"As of June 3, 1974, I have directed Mr. Berard to make a complete reaudit of this grant to rule out any possible dual funding or dual encumbrancing between federal and city funds received by this subgrantee."