

**ERIE COUNTY
DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE**

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Erie, Pennsylvania 16507

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October 22, 1974

The Honorable Patrick A. Gleason, Chairman
Select Committee on State Contract Practices
Room B-10, Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I have been advised that your Committee has issued a subpoena to me directing my appearance in Harrisburg on Monday, October 28, 1974. Although that subpoena has not been served upon me at the time of dictation of this letter, I must, nevertheless, most respectfully request a postponement of my appearance until a later date.

On Monday, October 7th, my law partner, R. Gordon Kennedy, was admitted to St. Vincent's Hospital with a tentative diagnosis of hepatitis. Since that date, I have assumed the responsibilities of his legal practice, including his scheduled civil court appearance.

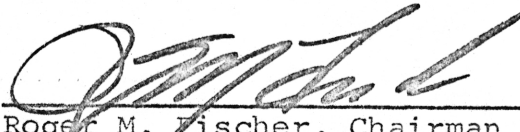
On Tuesday, October 22nd, an exploratory operation was performed on him and it was determined he is suffering from a malignant carcinoma of the stomach and liver. His doctors have advised me that the carcinoma is so extensive that no medical treatment is possible and that they expect that death will occur within the next two weeks.

Mr. Kennedy is not only my law partner - he is my closest, personal friend. He is 38 years old and has a wife and six children, ranging in age from 13 to 4. Until such time as that illness reaches its natural termination, I have no intention of leaving the City of Erie for any reason whatsoever.

As I indicated to you in my letter of May 27, 1974, I stand willing to assist your Committee in any manner. In view of the above, however, I must request that you grant a short postponement of my appearance so as to enable me to remain in Erie for the very near future. If my testimony is deemed vital to your Committee, I would,

of course, be willing to submit under oath to interrogatories or to the taking of my deposition before any judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Erie County, or any other official you may designate authorized to take testimony under oath.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "R. M. Fischer", written over a horizontal line.

Roger M. Fischer, Chairman
Erie County Democratic Committee