

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA



OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
HARRISBURG, PA. 17120

Capitol Annex  
717) 787-3167

August 9, 1974

Honorable Patrick A. Gleason  
Chairman, House Select Committee  
House of Representatives  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

Re: Request for Bureau of Investigation  
Files relating to PennDOT investigations

Dear Representative Gleason:

You have asked the Department of Justice to provide you, on behalf of your Committee, with all of our Bureau of Investigation files relating to criminal investigations of PennDOT officers or employees from 1966 to the present. You have also asked us to provide you with our Bureau of Investigation file on the STAGG of Huntingdon matter. This letter and the material included herewith are in response to those requests.

I am furnishing you herewith our Bureau of Investigation's complete file in the STAGG matter. As you may be aware, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York has been investigating this matter and intends to institute a criminal prosecution against STAGG and the other principals involved in this transaction. Pursuant to an agreement reached between the United States Attorney and this office, we have agreed to defer criminal prosecution to the federal authorities, and they have agreed to cooperate with us in our attempts to execute on the judgment of approximately \$700,000 which we have obtained against STAGG of Huntingdon, STAGG HOLDING COMPANY, and Mr. Stagg personally. The federal criminal investigation is on-going, and I have been advised that federal authorities will seek indictments in this matter shortly after Labor Day.

As I stated to you in an earlier letter, since receiving your first request for investigative files relating to PennDOT, personnel in our Bureau of Investigations have been attempting

Honorable Patrick A. Gleason  
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Re: Request for Investigations

to compile a list of all such closed investigations which are covered by your request. That list is now complete, and I enclose it herewith.

As you can see, there are well over one hundred cases on this list and these reports taken together run literally into thousands of pages. Needless to say, it would be extremely time-consuming and expensive for us to duplicate all of these files, many of which may well be irrelevant to your investigation.

Accordingly, I respectfully suggest that after you have had the opportunity to review this list, you may wish to proceed along one of the following lines:

1) If you wish, you and/or members of your staff may wish to review our files here at the Department of Justice and make a determination as to which of these files are relevant to your inquiry. We will be happy to provide you with a private room in order to facilitate this review.

2) In the alternative, we can supply you with summaries of these investigations, which summaries are part of the original files. You could then have members of your staff review the summaries to determine which files are relevant to your inquiry.

Of course, as we have done in the past, we will be happy to supply you with any specific closed file or files which you may wish to have at this time. As you know, we do not believe that it would be appropriate to release files or reports on pending investigations.

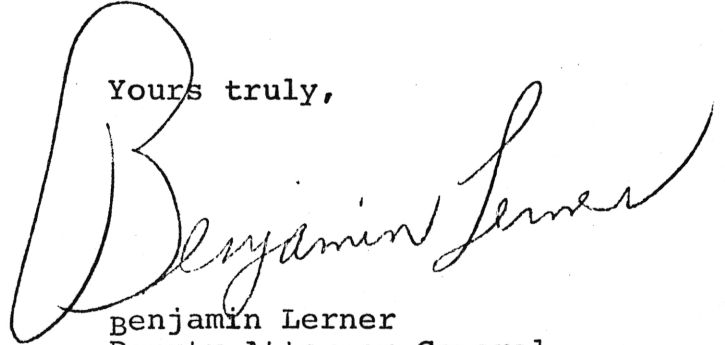
In compiling the enclosed list of PennDOT investigations, we attempted to identify from our Bureau of Investigations Log Books those cases involving allegations of criminal conduct on the part of PennDOT employees. We believe that all such cases are on the enclosed list. However, since it is possible that entries in the Log Books were not clear enough to enable us to pick out all of the cases within the scope of your request, we

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invite you and/or members of your staff to review the Log Books themselves if you so desire in order to insure that we did not inadvertently overlook any relevant files.

I shall await word from you as to how you wish to proceed from this point on.

Yours truly,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Benjamin Lerner". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name.

Benjamin Lerner  
Deputy Attorney General  
Chief, Office of Criminal Law

BL:kme  
Encs.

CC: Lawrence J. Beaser, Counsel to the Governor  
Israel Packel, Attorney General



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

HARRISBURG

August 29, 1974

Stephen Friend, Esq.  
Michael Willmann, Esq.  
Special Assistants to the Majority  
Select Committee on State Contract Practices  
288 Main Capitol Building  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

Dear Steve and Mike:

Pursuant to the motion passed at today's Executive Session, I would appreciate your turning over the Cambria County materials to me by 2:00 P.M. tomorrow afternoon.

Thanking you in advance for your cooperation.

Cordially,

Robert P. Kagan, Esq.  
Assistant Minority Counsel

RPK:1fb

cc: Committee members  
Thomas Frascella

PATRICK A. GLEASON  
CHAIRMAN



OFFICE OF SPECIAL COUNSEL

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
HARRISBURG

SELECT COMMITTEE ON STATE CONTRACT PRACTICES

September 12, 1974

The Honorable Israel Packel  
Attorney General  
Department of Justice  
Capital Annex-Old Museum Building  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

Dear General Packel:

Reference is made to my letter to you of September 11, 1974, requesting data concerning any rulings made by you involving Cable Television and your investigative files dealing with an investigation of Donald Altoff and Roger Fischer.

I request that any such materials in your possession be delivered to my office, Room B-10, Main Capitol Building, no later than Monday, September 16, 1974 at 2:00 o'clock p.m.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Very truly yours,

*Patrick A. Gleason (6)*

Patrick A. Gleason, Chairman  
Select Committee on State  
Contract Practices

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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

HARRISBURG 17120

August 19, 1974



IN REPLY REFER TO

•  
Honorable Patrick A. Gleason, Member  
House of Representatives  
Capitol Building  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120  
•

Dear Representative Gleason:

In response to your request, dated August 7, 1974, I am submitting investigative data on behalf of the Secretary of Transportation. In the process of reviewing PennDOT investigation files, it became apparent the files contained enormous volumes of individual interview reports, signed statements and various other document attachments. The task of reproducing all of the material was considered, however the time and expense involved did not appear warranted since most files contained either findings of investigation and/or a synopsis of each investigative effort. I am therefore submitting:

- 1) Documents in file which will explain the source of the complaint or allegation and
- 2) Findings of Investigations and/or a synopsis of the investigation efforts and
- 3) Disposition (if this information was in file).

I would like to advise you that prior to July 1971, the PennDOT Investigations Unit was under the direct supervision of the Bureau of Investigations, Pennsylvania Department of Justice. Therefore, copies of files being submitted for the period prior to July 1971 were obtained from the Department of Justice.

Your initial request, dated July 18, 1974, was for specific investigative information dating to 1966. I had members of my staff review files to 1963 and have found related information which may be of assistance to you and the Committee.

Honorable Patrick A. Gleason

-2-

August 19, 1974

Our delay in submitting this information was based on your additional request, dated August 7, 1974. Initially, your office had requested investigative files relating only to improper leasing practices, macing and kickbacks. In the aforementioned letter, it was expanded to include allegations of improper and/or criminal activities on the part of PennDOT employees.

Attached is a listing of the material being submitted; identified by Transfer Carton Number, Year, Case Number and County.

Very truly yours,



Robert E. Maley  
Chief Investigator  
Division of Investigations  
PennDOT Legal Bureau

## CARTON NUMBER ONE

<u>Case Number</u>	<u>County</u>
1964 Case No Assigned No.	Erie
65-099	Delaware
66-009	Cambria
66-037	Beaver
66-049	Lackawanna
67-002	Delaware
67-023	Fayette
67-028	Butler
67-042	Monroe
67-074	York
67-143	Bucks
68-139	Fayette
68-233	Lawrence
69-088	Allegheny
69-111	Berks
71-001	Philadelphia
71-003	McKean
71-004	Franklin
71-007	Delaware
71-011	Philadelphia
71-013	Schuylkill
71-014	Warren
71-016	Montour
71-019	Fayette
71-021	Dauphin
71-023	Dauphin
71-025	Butler
71-029	Dauphin
71-031	Elk
71-032	Lehigh
71-042	Schuylkill
71-066	Montgomery
71-068	Clarion
71-069	Dauphin
71-089	Dauphin
71-093	Allegheny

## CARTON NUMBER TWO

<u>Case Number</u>	<u>County</u>
72-002	Schuylkill
72-004 & 70-134	Dauphin
72-005	Dauphin
72-006	Lehigh
72-007	Dauphin
72-008	Somerset
72-011	Luzerne
72-012	Warren
72-013	Luzerne
72-015	Cameron
72-027	Berks
72-035	Allegheny
72-039	Wyoming
72-044	Delaware
72-045	Lackawanna
72-051	Lebanon
72-052	Chester
72-056	Columbia
72-058	Montgomery
72-066	Perry
72-074	Juniata
72-076	Schuylkill
72-080	Dauphin
72-082	Westmoreland
72-083	Lycoming
72-086	Pike
72-095	Delaware
72-099	Delaware
72-101	Delaware
73-004	Venango
73-005	Greene
73-011	Delaware
73-014	Delaware
73-016	Dauphin
73-018	Dauphin
73-021	McKean
73-026	Dauphin



CARTON NUMBER TWO CONTINUED:

<u>Case Number</u>	<u>County</u>
73-037	Fayette
73-038	Westmoreland
73-041	Luzerne
73-045	Philadelphia
73-050	Union
73-065	Wyoming
73-070	Beaver
73-079	Delaware
73-087	Fayette
73-089	Beaver
73-094	Philadelphia
73-101	Mercer
73-108	Schuylkill
73-115	Armstrong
73-118	Dauphin
73-119	Westmoreland
73-120	Northampton
73-126	Lehigh
73-127	Delaware
73-130	Beaver
73-131	Tioga
73-133	Delaware & Bucks
74-001	Venango
74-002	Wyoming
74-006	Bucks
74-015	Schuylkill
74-016	Luzerne
74-034	Clinton
74-037	Armstrong
74-048	York
74-049	Cumberland
74-050	Mercer & Butler
74-051	Dauphin

PATRICK A. GLEASON  
CHAIRMAN



OFFICE OF SPECIAL COUNSEL

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
HARRISBURG  
SELECT COMMITTEE ON STATE CONTRACT PRACTICES

August 7, 1974

Honorable Jacob G. Kassab  
Secretary of Transportation  
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
1200 Transportation & Safety Building  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

Dear Secretary Kassab:

Pursuant to ongoing investigations being conducted by the Committee, I am requesting that you transmit to me a personnel list of all PennDOT employees in Montour, Lycoming and Blair Counties.

In addition, please provide me with copies of all investigative reports dealing with any investigations conducted by your office concerning allegations of improper and/or criminal activities on the part of PennDOT employees.

I make specific reference to investigations by your office in Mercer and Montour Counties. Please advise me of the circumstances which prompted the suspensions of assistant superintendent Anthony J. Monteson and foremen John A. Skarica in Mercer County and the firing of superintendent Frances J. Wysocki in Montour County.

I would appreciate receiving the above personnel lists by August 12, 1974, at 10:00 a.m. With respect to the investigative reports, I ask only that you forward them at your earliest convenience, but certainly no later than August 19, 1974 at 10:00 a.m.

Your continued cooperation in these matters is deeply appreciated.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Patrick A. Gleason".

Patrick A. Gleason

PAG:nlr



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120

OFFICE OF  
SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION

July 24, 1974

The Honorable Patrick A. Gleason  
House of Representatives  
Main Capitol Building  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

Dear Mr. Gleason:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letters of July 18, 1974 and July 19, 1974 requesting copies of reports of all investigations conducted from 1966 until the present time into charges relating to improper leasing practices, kickbacks, extortion, and macing of employes of this Department.

Since such reports were prepared by the Department of Justice, I have today sent the attached letter to the Attorney General requesting that he supply you with this information in accordance with the Governor's policy of providing specifically identified material to legislative committees.

Please be assured that you will have my full cooperation in this matter.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jacob G. Kassab".

Jacob G. Kassab  
Secretary of Transportation

Attachment

PATRICK A. GLEASON, MEMBER  
636 MAIN STREET  
JOHNSTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA 15001



COMMITTEES  
GAME AND FISHERIES  
MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS  
STATE GOVERNMENT

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
HARRISBURG

July 19, 1974

Hon. Jacob Kassab, Secretary  
Pennsylvania Department of Transportation  
Transportation & Safety Building  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

Dear Mr. Kassab:

This will supplement my letter to you of  
July 18, 1974.

My Select Committee unanimously authorized me to request of you a copy of any investigation conducted by the Department of Transportation for the years 1968 and 1969 into the operation of the Cambria County Maintenance Office of the Department of Transportation for the years 1968 and 1969. We are informed that such a copy might be available to the Committee and it appears to involve improper leasing practices, kick backs and extortion.

As I indicated to you in my letter of July 18, 1974, we also wish to have similar reports as to all other maintenance districts in Pennsylvania from 1966 until the present time.

Thank you for your usual cooperation.

Best personal regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pat Gleason".  
PATRICK A. GLEASON

PAG:ss

PATRICK A. GLEASON, MEMBER  
636 MAIN STREET  
JOHNSTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA 15901



COMMITTEES

GAME AND FISHERIES  
MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS  
STATE GOVERNMENT

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

HARRISBURG

July 18, 1974

Hon. Jacob Kassab, Secretary  
Pennsylvania Department of Transportation  
Transportation & Safety Building  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

Dear Mr. Kassab:

By unanimous vote of my Select Committee, I was authorized to ask you to turn over to the Select Committee copies of any and all investigations conducted by the Department of Transportation from 1966 until the present time into charges relating to improper leasing practices, kick backs, extortion, and macing of employees of your department.

As you know, the Select Committee is conducting at the present time an investigation into these practices as they may or may not exist in several maintenance districts of the Department. The purpose for the investigation is to focus public scrutiny upon abuses not only in this administration, but in prior administrations and to suggest legislation to prevent such abuses so as to make the Department a more efficient instrument for carrying out its responsibilities to the people of Pennsylvania.

I want you to know that at no time in our investigation has your name been implicated in any alleged wrong-doing, which does not surprise me, in view of the fact that I consider you to be one of the finest Secretaries of Transportation the Commonwealth has had in the last several years.

I would appreciate your usual courtesy and cooperation in responding to this request. Should you have any difficulties, I would ask that you contact Mr. William Powell, Administrative Assistant to the Committee, Room 288 of the Senate.

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July 18, 1974

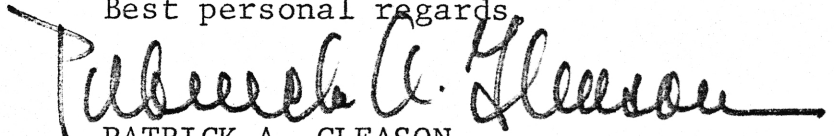
Hon. Jacob Kassab, Secretary

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Mr. Powell's telephone number is 7-5292.

Thank you very much.

Best personal regards,

  
PATRICK A. GLEASON

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