

**ERIE COUNTY  
DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE**

Phone (814) 452-2209

332 East Sixth Street  
Erie, Pennsylvania 16507

ROGER M. FISCHER, *Chairman* • PAUL M. FOUST, *1st Vice-Chairman* • CATHY PEARSON, *2nd Vice-Chairman*  
BETTY FLANAGAN, *Secretary* • ANN WOZNAK, *Treasurer*

November 8, 1974

The Honorable Patrick A. Gleason  
Chairman, Select Committee on State  
Contract Practices  
House of Representatives  
State Capitol  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The adjournment of your Committee immediately after the election and your personal failure to attend its last meeting would appear to verify the characterization of your Committee as a "political witch hunt" whose only purpose was to influence the election.

Your actions and the outrageous release of raw files by Representative Dininni constitute a despicable abuse of legislative authority and have permitted unsubstantiated charges to remain against the Democratic Party in general and myself, personally.

As you are aware, I have on three separate occasions offered to testify voluntarily before your Committee. A final adjournment at this time would be grossly unfair and, accordingly, I demand the opportunity to appear before your Committee to rebut, under oath, any adverse statements previously accepted concerning Erie County. Any final report of your Committee without such testimony would be grievously incomplete, misleading and inaccurate.

Your prompt reply will be appreciated.

Very truly yours,

Roger M. Fischer, Chairman  
Erie County Democratic Committee

PATRICK A. GLEASON  
CHAIRMAN



OFFICE OF SPECIAL COUNSEL

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
HARRISBURG

SELECT COMMITTEE ON STATE CONTRACT PRACTICES

October 31, 1974

Mr. Roger M. Fischer  
332 E. 6th Street  
Erie, Pennsylvania

Dear Mr. Fischer:

Your scheduled appearance before the House of Representatives Select Committee on State Contract Practices was postponed in accordance with a vote of the Committee on October 24, 1974.

Your appearance has been rescheduled for November 12, 1974 at 10:00 A.M.

You are hereby commanded to appear before the Select Committee at its meeting in Room 140, Main Capitol Building, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania on Tuesday, November 12, 1974 at 10:00 A.M. to testify truth and give evidence in the investigation before said Select Committee.

Very truly yours,

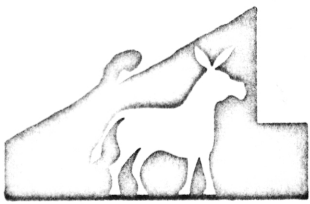
*Patrick A. Gleason*

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

*Robert M. Scheipe*  
Robert M. Scheipe  
Chief Clerk of the House  
of Representatives

PAG:RMS:bb

MAIL 11/4/74



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October 30, 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:

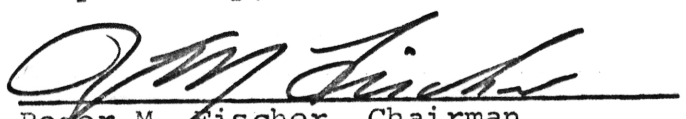
You will recall my letter of October 22nd in which I requested a postponement of my then scheduled appearance before your Committee on October 28th. As I advised you at that time, I would not leave the City of Erie so long as my law partner and close, personal friend, Gordon Kennedy, was in the last stage of a terminal illness.

Mr. Kennedy died on Wednesday, October 23rd and was laid to rest on Saturday, October 26th. Accordingly, I now stand ready to appear before your Committee whenever you desire.

I am aware that your Committee is now in recess until November 7, 1974, and I assume that you will be prepared for my testimony on Monday, November 11th, since that is in keeping with the schedule you have previously arranged for testimony concerning Erie County. I must advise you, however, that under no circumstances will I accept a subpoena for that appearance. In view of the previously expressed willingness on my part to testify as contained in my letters of May 27th and October 22nd, I would consider the issuance of a subpoena by your Committee and its acceptance by me to be insulting, demeaning and completely unwarranted. It is my intention to appear before you voluntarily in every respect and to answer fully and completely any questions you or your counsel may present to me.

I sincerely trust that in view of this offer of total cooperation, you will respect my wishes - as one member of the Bar to another - and not direct that the subpoena previously issued again be attempted to be served.

Respectfully,

  
Roger M. Fischer, Chairman  
Erie County Democratic Committee



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October 22, 1974

The Honorable James J. Manderino  
Pennsylvania House of Representatives  
Room 649, Main Capitol Building  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

Dear Jim:

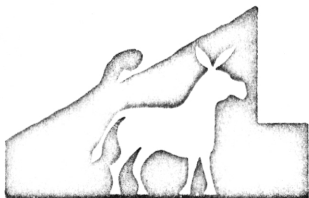
Enclosed please find a copy of my letter mailed today to  
Patrick Gleason.

Any assistance you may be able to give in obtaining a  
postponement of my testimony or in obtaining that testimony  
by interrogatories or deposition will be greatly appreciated.

Regards,

Roger M. Fischer, Chairman  
Erie County Democratic Committee





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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 black ink, appearing to read 'Roger M. Fischer', written over a horizontal line.

Roger M. Fischer, Chairman  
Erie County Democratic Committee