

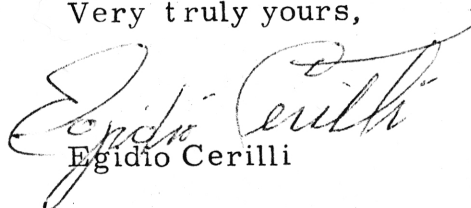
September 1, 1974

Representative Patrick Gleason
Chairman
House Select Committee on State
Contract Practices
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
P.O. Capital Building
Harrisburg, PA

Dear Mr. Gleason:

Enclosed please find a short statement which I desire to
make prior to my hearing scheduled for 10:00 A.M., September 4,
1974.

Very truly yours,



Egidio Cerilli

TO SELECT COMMITTEE ON STATE CONTRACT PRACTICES

STATEMENT OF EGIDIO CERILLI

I would like to go on record with a short statement prior to the commencement of this hearing.

I have been the subject of many confusing allegations and charges of wrongdoing during that period when I was PEN DOT Superintendant.

Without qualification, I catagorically deny any and all allegations of wrongdoing on my part that have been made before this Committee.

Specifically, I deny the statements of Mr. Poole concerning alleged cash payments to me during 1972 or any other year. I did not ask Jim Poole for any money, cash or otherwise, nor did he give me any money.

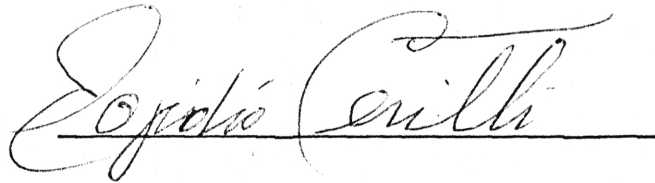
There are allegations that I forced contractors and PEN DOT employees to buy tickets to political functions. This is not true! The facts are that, as a leader in the Democrat Party in Westmoreland County for several years, I did distribute tickets to my assistants and formen with instructions to try to sell as many as they could. Specifically, my people were instructed that they were not to force any employee or lessor to buy tickets. As a matter of fact, they were told that if information got back to me that any of them was trying to force people to buy tickets, that person would be fired. It is also a fact that I received no complaints from employees or lessors that they were forced to buy tickets. I might add that when I distributed the tickets to my supervisory personal, I had the President of the Union present and instructed him that if he received any complaints from his members concerning the purchase of tickets as a result of threats, etc., he was to let me know and I would see that the guilty party was dismissed.

I did not at any time personally solicit sales of tickets from employees or lessors. As a matter of fact, I don't think I know more than 20% of the lessors.

On another point, when I voluntarily appeared before the Committee in Executive Session, my attorney requested transcripts of the testimony of Mr. Seigfried, Mr. Caletri, Mr. Sosko, and Mr. Poole. The Chairman assured us, that the transcripts would be furnished us within three days of the day the witness testified. As yet, we have none of these transcripts. In addition, my attorney specifically requested that the investigators from the

Auditor General's Office and Attorney General's Office who interviewed these four witnesses be subpoenaed by the Committee together with their investigation reports. We have not been informed as to what the Committee is going to do in regard to these requests. What is the decision of the Committee?

There has been talk about ticket sales or contributions to or from contractors based on a percentage of their income from state work. If this were a fact, I had no knowledge of it. No contractor has ever indicated to me that they were asked to make contributions based on a percentage of their income. I would not condone any such practice! If I ascertained that any of my employees were guilty of such practices, they would be dismissed!



Joseph C. Cilli