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WITHDRAWAL SHEET

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
1. memo	from Fred Fielding to the President re: Gilbert Dozier, page 3 (1p)	6/12/84	P-5 B6
2. memo	from David Stephenson to F. Fielding re: G. Dozier (1p)	3/19/84	P-5 B6
3. letter	from Associate Attorney General to the President re: G. Dozier (2pp) (22p)	3/16/84	P-5 B6 P-6 CCB 12/14/00
COLLECTION: ROBERTS, JOHN G.: Files			kdb
FILE FOLDER: JGR/Dozier, Gilbert [3 of 6] OA-12361 B3, 18			1/23/96

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P-1 National security classified information [(a)(1) of the PRA].
- P-2 Relating to appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA].
- P-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA].
- P-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA].
- P-5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA].
- P-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA].

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- F-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA].
- F-2 Release could disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA].
- F-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA].
- F-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA].
- F-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA].
- F-7 Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA].
- F-8 Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA].
- F-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA].

The President has seen _____

1984 JUN 22 AM 10 22

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

June 22, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: FRED F. FIELDING 
COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Executive Clemency

In accordance with your decision as noted on the memorandum at Tab A, attached for your review and signature at Tab B is a warrant to effect Executive Clemency in the form of commutation of sentence for Gilbert L. Dozier.

Executive Grant of Clemency

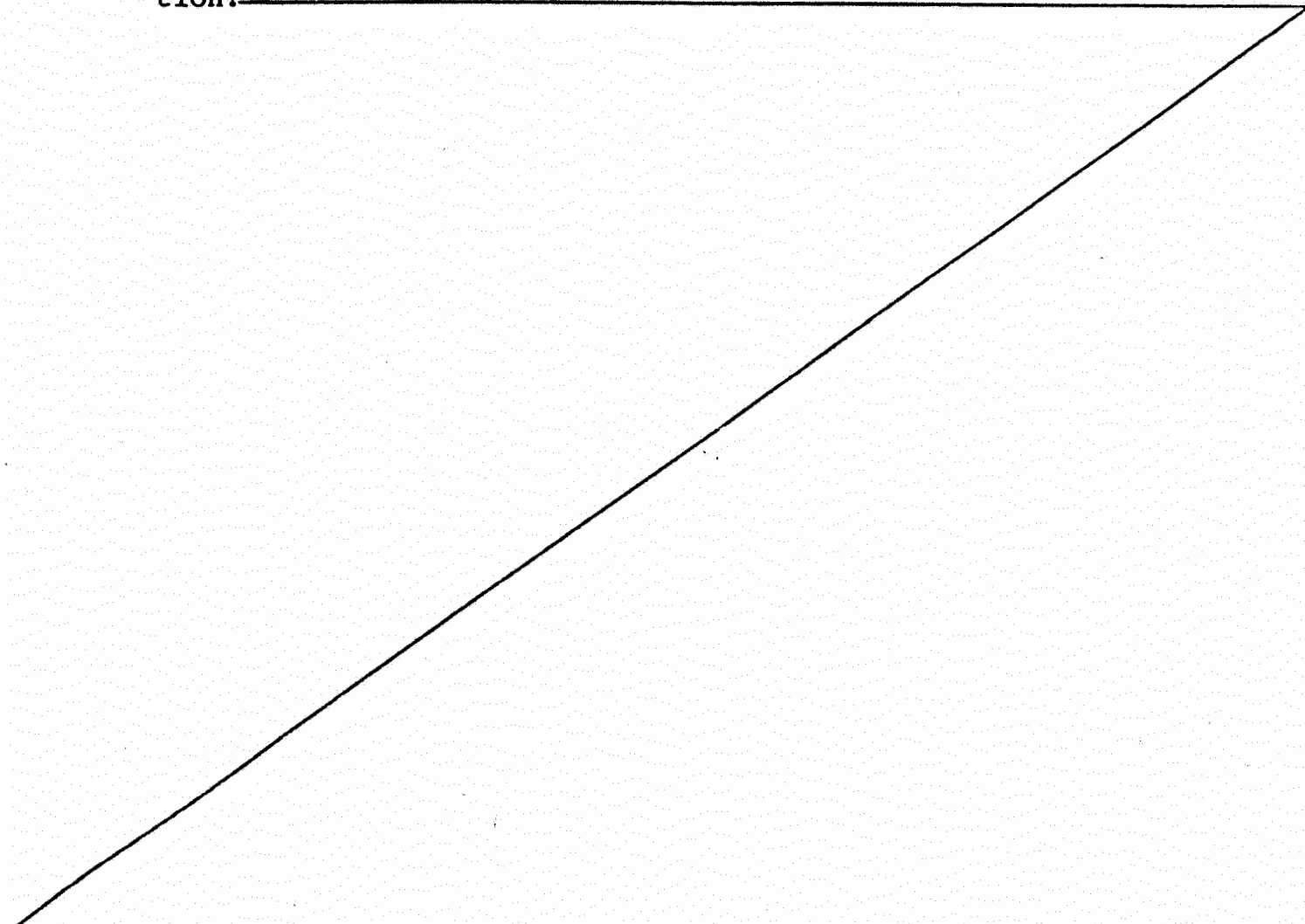
TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, GREETING:

WHEREAS Gilbert L. Dozier was convicted in the United States District Court for the Middle District of Louisiana on four counts of a five-count indictment (Doc. No. 80-2-B) charging violation of Sections 2, 1951, 1961, 1962(c) and 1963, Title 18, United States Code, and La. Stat. Ann. §14:118, and on November seventh, 1980, was sentenced to ten years' imprisonment and ordered to pay a fine of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) on counts one and two, was placed on five years' probation, to commence upon his release from prison, on count three, and received a suspended sentence on count five; and

WHEREAS the said Gilbert L. Dozier violated the conditions of the aforesaid probation and the court on June twenty-fourth, 1982, revoked the probation previously ordered and imposed a term of from eighteen months to eight years' imprisonment on count three, to be served consecutively to the aforesaid ten-year prison sentence, and also imposed on count five a suspended ten-year prison sentence with a five-year probation term to commence upon his release from imprisonment; and

WHEREAS the said Gilbert L. Dozier presently is assigned to the Federal Correctional Institution, Fort Worth, Texas, has paid the fine, and will not become eligible for parole consideration until April fifteenth, 1987, after the service of a minimum of fifty-eight months' imprisonment; and

WHEREAS it does not appear that the ends of justice require that the aforesaid sentence be served in its entirety nor that the said Gilbert L. Dozier serve the minimum sentence of fifty-eight months' imprisonment before becoming eligible for parole consideration:



NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT KNOWN, that I, Ronald Reagan, President of the United States of America, in consideration of the premises, divers other good and sufficient reasons me thereunto moving, do hereby commute the aforesaid aggregate eighteen-year prison sentence imposed on the said Gilbert L. Dozier on counts one, two and three to six years' imprisonment, and void, nullify and terminate the suspended ten-year prison sentence and five years' probation imposed on count five.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF I have signed my name and caused the seal of the Department of Justice to be affixed.

DONE at the City of Washington this

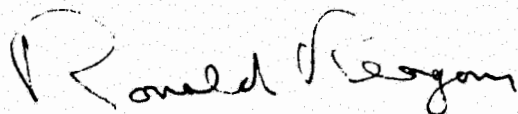
22nd day of June

in the year of Our Lord One Thousand

Nine Hundred and Eighty-four and of

the Independence of the United States

the Two Hundred and Eighth.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ronald Reagan". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Ronald Reagan
President

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

1034 JUN 14 PM 1:15

June 12, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: FRED F. FIELDING
COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Gilbert L. Dozier - Petition for Executive Clemency

The Department of Justice has recommended that the sentence of Gilbert L. Dozier be commuted to 6 years' imprisonment. Dozier is currently serving a sentence of 18 years' imprisonment, followed by 5 years' probation.

The offense for which clemency is sought occurred between 1975 and 1979 when petitioner was in his early forties and Commissioner of Agriculture of the State of Louisiana. Immediately after taking office in May 1976, Dozier began to solicit political contributions to satisfy previous campaign debts and to amass a campaign fund for a future gubernatorial bid. He instead unsuccessfully sought reelection as Commissioner of Agriculture in 1979 and left office in March 1980. Petitioner was charged with conducting the affairs of the Louisiana Department of Agriculture through a pattern of racketeering activities. More specifically, he was alleged to have solicited approximately \$315,000 from individuals and businesses that were, or might have been, affected by actions of the Louisiana Department of Agriculture. Only \$10,000 of the total amount solicited was received, and petitioner believed that he had conducted his political solicitations in a legally acceptable fashion. He made no attempt to conceal his fundraising efforts, did not employ threats or physical violence to accomplish his purpose and apparently was sincerely remorseful that some of his victims may have been placed in fear by his overzealous and aggressive solicitations. Petitioner was fined \$25,000 and sentenced to a 10-year prison term followed by a 5-year period of probation.

A troublesome aspect of this case is a subsequent determination by the Court that the petitioner violated the terms of his probation by committing four separate criminal acts; namely -- conspiracy to obstruct justice and commit mail fraud; obstruction of justice; mail fraud; and conspiracy to commit burglary and attempted burglary. While on appeal bond in late 1981, petitioner, through an intermediary, attempted to influence a female member of the trial jury. Petitioner paid about \$10,000 to the intermediary to persuade the juror to write the trial judge a letter containing false information alleging jury misconduct. After mailing the requested letter to the court, the juror subsequently was encouraged to lie under oath at the request of the petitioner. For this subsequent violation the court imposed a prison term of from 18 months to 8 years' imprisonment, to be served consecutively to the 10-year prison term previously imposed. Petitioner commenced service of his prison sentence on June 24, 1982 and will not become eligible for release or parole until April 15, 1987.

The Justice Department believes that the original 10-year sentence, as well as the 18 month to 8 year term, are unduly disparate when compared to other cases involving official misconduct. Petitioner has cooperated with the Government, and, in the opinion of the Department of Justice, has been "substantially punished by his incarceration to date and the payment of a heavy fine, and that no appreciable rehabilitative, and only a minimal deterrent, effect is to be achieved by requiring him to complete a 58-month to 18-year prison sentence." Accordingly, the Department of Justice recommends that you commute the aggregate sentence of 18 years' imprisonment, followed by 5 years' probation, to a total of 6 years' imprisonment. The Justice Department believes that this action would alleviate the excessiveness of the original sentence, set a release date in conformity with existing parole guidelines, and preserve the intent of the sentencing court that petitioner serve substantial prison time for his post-conviction offenses. The proposed action would render petitioner eligible for parole consideration after the service of 24 rather than 53 months' imprisonment. If commuted, the sentence would still provide for a period of supervision in the community.

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THIS FORM MARKS THE FILE LOCATION OF ITEM NUMBER 3 LISTED ON THE
WITHDRAWAL SHEET AT THE FRONT OF THIS FOLDER.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 25, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR FRED F. FIELDING
RICHARD A. HAUSER

FROM: JOHN G. ROBERTS 

SUBJECT: Dozier Correspondence

As you know, we have received about sixty letters from Louisiana citizens, complaining about the commutation of Gilbert Dozier's sentence for extortion, bribery, and obstruction of justice. I have prepared the attached draft generic reply, based on press guidance provided by the Department of Justice and my review of the advice memorandum from the Acting Pardon Attorney. I recommend that you forward the draft to the Deputy Attorney General, for whatever additional Justice review she considers appropriate. A memorandum for this purpose is attached.

Attachment

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 25, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR CAROL E. DINKINS
DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FROM: FRED F. FIELDING Orig. signed by FFF
COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Dozier Correspondence

The President has received about sixty letters (so far) complaining about the decision to commute the sentence of Gilbert L. Dozier. Attached for your review is a proposed response to those letters for my signature, largely based on Department of Justice press guidance.

Many thanks.

Attachment

FFF:JGR:aea 7/25/84

cc: FFFfieldng/JGRoberts/Subj/Chron

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 25, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR CAROL E. DINKINS
DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FROM: FRED F. FIELDING
COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Dozier Correspondence

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Many thanks.

Attachment

FFF:JGR:aea 7/25/84

cc: FFFielding/JGRoberts/Subj/Chron

DRAFT

Dear _____:

Thank you for your recent letter to the President concerning the decision to commute the sentence of Gilbert L. Dozier to six years imprisonment. In light of your expressed concerns about that decision, you may be interested in more information about the facts of the case and the procedures that were followed.

Gilbert L. Dozier was convicted in the United States District Court for the Middle District of Louisiana in 1980 for violations of Federal law involving extortion and bribery. Dozier was convicted of soliciting money from individuals and businesses that were, or might have been, affected by actions of the Louisiana Department of Agriculture while he was Commissioner of Agriculture. Dozier was also found to have committed additional criminal acts in 1982, including obstruction of justice, and to have thereby violated the conditions of a court ordered probationary term. On June 24, 1982, he commenced service of an aggregate sentence of from 58 months to 18 years imprisonment, followed by five years probation, and was fined \$25,000.

In January 1983, Dozier filed an application for Executive clemency with the Office of the Pardon Attorney in the Department of Justice. In accordance with standard procedures, the Office of the Pardon Attorney, headed and staffed by experienced career attorneys, obtained and evaluated pertinent information, reports, and advice concerning Dozier's application. The office recommended that Dozier's sentence be reduced, and on March 20, 1984, the Department of Justice advised the President to modify the sentence of imprisonment and probation to six years imprisonment.

The Department of Justice recommendation was based on the disparity between Dozier's original sentence and sentences imposed in similar circumstances on like offenders for similar offenses. The disparity became evident through an evaluation of relevant data compiled by the Administrative Office of United States Courts on sentences imposed in Federal courts. Not only was Dozier's sentence comparatively long, but the convictions for extortion that made up the pertinent statistics generally involved behavior even more severe than the acts of extortion committed by Dozier. Generally, they included offenders with serious prior criminal records whose offenses involved violence. Sentencing statistics pertaining to defendants convicted of bribery suggest an even greater disparity of sentence. In addition, sentences imposed in comparable cases in recent years upon a number of public officials in the Federal

DRAFT

DRAFT

criminal justice system were reviewed, and this review again demonstrated the disparity of Dozier's sentence.

The recommendation of the Department of Justice was also based on Dozier's cooperation with law enforcement authorities after his conviction. This cooperation was described by the Department as ranging from "valuable" to "of major significance." Also taken into account were the guidelines of the United States Parole Commission, the length of incarceration to date, the fact that Dozier paid his fine, and the minimal additional deterrent effect to be achieved by completion of the original sentence.

The President accepted the advice of the Department of Justice and on June 21, 1984 reduced Dozier's sentence to six years. While the recommended sentence of six years imprisonment will permit Dozier to become eligible for parole consideration after two years imprisonment, any actual release date will be determined by the United States Parole Commission in its discretion and in accordance with its applicable guidelines. Unless the Parole Commission releases him sooner, Dozier will remain incarcerated until the expiration of his six-year sentence, subject to statutory release procedures applicable to all Federal prisoners.

It is important to recognize that the President has not pardoned Dozier for the very serious criminal conduct that resulted in his conviction and incarceration. The reduction of sentence, approved for the reasons outlined above, in no way minimizes the seriousness of the crimes committed by Dozier.

We appreciate your taking the time to share your views on this matter with us. I hope the foregoing responds to your concerns.

Sincerely,

Fred F. Fielding
Counsel to the President

DRAFT

Dear _____:

Thank you for your recent letter to the President concerning the decision to commute the sentence of Gilbert L. Dozier to six years imprisonment. In light of your expressed concerns about that decision, you may be interested in more information about the facts of the case and the procedures that were followed.

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The Department of Justice recommendation was based on the disparity between Dozier's original sentence and sentences imposed in similar circumstances on like offenders for similar offenses. The disparity became evident through an evaluation of relevant data compiled by the Administrative Office of United States Courts on sentences imposed in Federal courts. Not only was Dozier's sentence comparatively long, but the convictions for racketeering and extortion that made up the pertinent statistics generally involved behavior even more severe than the acts of extortion committed by Dozier. Generally, they included offenders with serious prior criminal records whose offenses involved violence. Sentencing statistics pertaining to defendants convicted of bribery suggest an even greater disparity of sentence. In addition, sentences imposed in comparable cases in recent years upon a number of public officials in

in the Federal criminal justice system were reviewed, and this review again demonstrated the disparity of Dozier's sentence.

The recommendation of the Department of Justice was also based on Dozier's cooperation with law enforcement authorities after his conviction. Such cooperation provided with respect to ongoing law enforcement efforts is, as I am certain you will understand, a very important consideration in matters of this kind. Also taken into account were the guidelines of the United States Parole Commission, the length of incarceration to date, the fact that Dozier paid his fine, and the minimal additional deterrent effect to be achieved by completion of the original sentence.

The President accepted the advice of the Department of Justice and on June 22, 1984 reduced Dozier's sentence to six years. While the recommended sentence of six years imprisonment will permit Dozier to become eligible for parole consideration after two years imprisonment, any actual release date will be determined by the United States Parole Commission in its discretion and in accordance with its applicable guidelines. Unless the Parole Commission releases him sooner, Dozier will remain incarcerated until the expiration of his six-year sentence, subject to statutory release procedures (including good time) applicable to all Federal prisoners.

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We appreciate your taking the time to share your views on this matter with us. I hope the foregoing responds to your concerns.

Sincerely,

Fred F. Fielding
Counsel to the President

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 29, 1984

Dear Mrs. Johnson:

Thank you for your recent letter to Assistant to the President and Chief of Staff James A. Baker, III concerning the decision to commute the sentence of Gilbert L. Dozier to six years imprisonment. In light of your expressed concerns about that decision, you may be interested in more information about the facts of the case and the procedures that were followed.

Gilbert L. Dozier was convicted in the United States District Court for the Middle District of Louisiana in 1980 for violations of Federal law involving extortion and bribery. Dozier was convicted of soliciting money from individuals and businesses that were, or might have been, affected by actions of the Louisiana Department of Agriculture while he was Commissioner of Agriculture. In 1982 Dozier was also found to have committed additional criminal acts, including obstruction of justice, and to have thereby violated the conditions of a court ordered probationary term. On June 24, 1982, he commenced service of an aggregate sentence of from 58 months to 18 years imprisonment, followed by five years probation, and was fined \$25,000.

In January 1983, Dozier filed an application for Executive clemency with the Office of the Pardon Attorney in the Department of Justice. In accordance with standard procedures, the Office of the Pardon Attorney, headed and staffed by experienced career attorneys, obtained and evaluated pertinent information, reports, and advice concerning Dozier's application. The office recommended that Dozier's sentence be reduced, and on March 20, 1984, the Department of Justice advised the President to modify the sentence of imprisonment and probation to six years imprisonment.

The Department of Justice recommendation was based on the disparity between Dozier's original sentence and sentences imposed in similar circumstances on like offenders for

similar offenses. The disparity became evident through an evaluation of relevant data compiled by the Administrative Office of United States Courts on sentences imposed in Federal courts. Not only was Dozier's sentence comparatively long, but the convictions for racketeering and extortion that made up the pertinent statistics generally involved behavior even more severe than the acts of extortion committed by Dozier. Generally, they included offenders with serious prior criminal records whose offenses involved violence. Sentencing statistics pertaining to defendants convicted of bribery suggest an even greater disparity of sentence. In addition, sentences imposed in comparable cases in recent years upon a number of public officials in the Federal criminal justice system were reviewed, and this review again demonstrated the disparity of Dozier's sentence.

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The President accepted the advice of the Department of Justice and on June 22, 1984 reduced Dozier's sentence to six years. While the recommended sentence of six years imprisonment will permit Dozier to become eligible for parole consideration after two years imprisonment, any actual release date will be determined by the United States Parole Commission in its discretion and in accordance with its applicable guidelines. Unless the Parole Commission releases him sooner, Dozier will remain incarcerated until the expiration of his six-year sentence, subject to statutory release procedures (including good time) applicable to all Federal prisoners.

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We appreciate your taking the time to share your views on this matter with us. I hope the foregoing responds to your concerns.

Sincerely,

Original signed by RAH

Richard A. Hauser
Deputy Counsel to the President

Mrs. Charles A. Johnson
906 Cole Avenue
Monroe, LA 71203

RAH:JGR;aea 8/29/84 ✓
cc: RAHauser/JGRoberts/SUbj/Chron

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 29, 1984

Dear Mr. Mathews:

Thank you for your recent letter to Assistant to the President and Chief of Staff James A. Baker, III concerning the decision to commute the sentence of Gilbert L. Dozier to six years imprisonment. In light of your expressed concerns about that decision, you may be interested in more information about the facts of the case and the procedures that were followed.

Gilbert L. Dozier was convicted in the United States District Court for the Middle District of Louisiana in 1980 for violations of Federal law involving extortion and bribery. Dozier was convicted of soliciting money from individuals and businesses that were, or might have been, affected by actions of the Louisiana Department of Agriculture while he was Commissioner of Agriculture. In 1982 Dozier was also found to have committed additional criminal acts, including obstruction of justice, and to have thereby violated the conditions of a court ordered probationary term. On June 24, 1982, he commenced service of an aggregate sentence of from 58 months to 18 years imprisonment, followed by five years probation, and was fined \$25,000.

In January 1983, Dozier filed an application for Executive clemency with the Office of the Pardon Attorney in the Department of Justice. In accordance with standard procedures, the Office of the Pardon Attorney, headed and staffed by experienced career attorneys, obtained and evaluated pertinent information, reports, and advice concerning Dozier's application. The office recommended that Dozier's sentence be reduced, and on March 20, 1984, the Department of Justice advised the President to modify the sentence of imprisonment and probation to six years imprisonment.

The Department of Justice recommendation was based on the disparity between Dozier's original sentence and sentences imposed in similar circumstances on like offenders for

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The recommendation of the Department of Justice was also based on Dozier's cooperation with law enforcement authorities after his conviction. Such cooperation provided with respect to ongoing law enforcement efforts is, as I am certain you will understand, a very important consideration in matters of this kind. Also taken into account were the guidelines of the United States Parole Commission, the length of incarceration to date, the fact that Dozier paid his fine, and the minimal additional deterrent effect to be achieved by completion of the original sentence.

The President accepted the advice of the Department of Justice and on June 22, 1984 reduced Dozier's sentence to six years. While the recommended sentence of six years imprisonment will permit Dozier to become eligible for parole consideration after two years imprisonment, any actual release date will be determined by the United States Parole Commission in its discretion and in accordance with its applicable guidelines. Unless the Parole Commission releases him sooner, Dozier will remain incarcerated until the expiration of his six-year sentence, subject to statutory release procedures (including good time) applicable to all Federal prisoners.

It is important to recognize that the President has not pardoned Dozier for the very serious criminal conduct that resulted in his conviction and incarceration. The reduction of sentence, approved for the reasons outlined above, in no way minimizes the seriousness of the crimes committed by Dozier.

We appreciate your taking the time to share your views on this matter with us. I hope the foregoing responds to your concerns.

Sincerely,

Original signed by RAH
Richard A. Hauser
Deputy Counsel to the President

Mr. George Mathews
P.O. Box 3177
Baton Rouge, LA 70821

RAH:JGR:aea 8/29/84 ✓
cc: RAHauser/JGRoberts/Subj/Chron

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 29, 1984

Dear Mr. Westphal:

Thank you for your recent letter to the President concerning the decision to commute the sentence of Gilbert L. Dozier to six years imprisonment. In light of your expressed concerns about that decision, you may be interested in more information about the facts of the case and the procedures that were followed.

Gilbert L. Dozier was convicted in the United States District Court for the Middle District of Louisiana in 1980 for violations of Federal law involving extortion and bribery. Dozier was convicted of soliciting money from individuals and businesses that were, or might have been, affected by actions of the Louisiana Department of Agriculture while he was Commissioner of Agriculture. In 1982 Dozier was also found to have committed additional criminal acts, including obstruction of justice, and to have thereby violated the conditions of a court ordered probationary term. On June 24, 1982, he commenced service of an aggregate sentence of from 58 months to 18 years imprisonment, followed by five years probation, and was fined \$25,000.

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We appreciate your taking the time to share your views on this matter with us. I hope the foregoing responds to your concerns.

Sincerely,

Original signed by RAH

Richard A. Hauser
Deputy Counsel to the President

Mr. Frederick C. Westphal, Jr.
Route 2, Box 6B
Jackson, LA 70748

RAH:JGR:aea 8/29/84 ✓
cc: RAHauser/JGRoberts/Subj/Chron

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 29, 1984

Dear Mr. Morales:

Thank you for your recent letter to the President concerning the decision to commute the sentence of Gilbert L. Dozier to six years imprisonment. In light of your expressed concerns about that decision, you may be interested in more information about the facts of the case and the procedures that were followed.

Gilbert L. Dozier was convicted in the United States District Court for the Middle District of Louisiana in 1980 for violations of Federal law involving extortion and bribery. Dozier was convicted of soliciting money from individuals and businesses that were, or might have been, affected by actions of the Louisiana Department of Agriculture while he was Commissioner of Agriculture. In 1982 Dozier was also found to have committed additional criminal acts, including obstruction of justice, and to have thereby violated the conditions of a court ordered probationary term. On June 24, 1982, he commenced service of an aggregate sentence of from 58 months to 18 years imprisonment, followed by five years probation, and was fined \$25,000.

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The recommendation of the Department of Justice was also based on Dozier's cooperation with law enforcement authorities after his conviction. Such cooperation provided with respect to ongoing law enforcement efforts is, as I am certain you will understand, a very important consideration in matters of this kind. Also taken into account were the guidelines of the United States Parole Commission, the length of incarceration to date, the fact that Dozier paid his fine, and the minimal additional deterrent effect to be achieved by completion of the original sentence.

The President accepted the advice of the Department of Justice and on June 22, 1984 reduced Dozier's sentence to six years. While the recommended sentence of six years imprisonment will permit Dozier to become eligible for parole consideration after two years imprisonment, any actual release date will be determined by the United States Parole Commission in its discretion and in accordance with its applicable guidelines. Unless the Parole Commission releases him sooner, Dozier will remain incarcerated until the expiration of his six-year sentence, subject to statutory release procedures (including good time) applicable to all Federal prisoners.

It is important to recognize that the President has not pardoned Dozier for the very serious criminal conduct that resulted in his conviction and incarceration. The reduction of sentence, approved for the reasons outlined above, in no way minimizes the seriousness of the crimes committed by Dozier.

We appreciate your taking the time to share your views on this matter with us. I hope the foregoing responds to your concerns.

Sincerely,

Original signed by RAH
Richard A. Hauser
Deputy Counsel to the President

M. David Morales, M.D.
103 Dana Drive
Pineville, LA 71360

RAH:JGR:aea 8/29/84 ✓
cc: RAHauser/JGRoberts/Subj/Chron

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 29, 1984

Dear Mr. Rice:

Thank you for your recent letter to the President concerning the decision to commute the sentence of Gilbert L. Dozier to six years imprisonment. In light of your expressed concerns about that decision, you may be interested in more information about the facts of the case and the procedures that were followed.

Gilbert L. Dozier was convicted in the United States District Court for the Middle District of Louisiana in 1980 for violations of Federal law involving extortion and bribery. Dozier was convicted of soliciting money from individuals and businesses that were, or might have been, affected by actions of the Louisiana Department of Agriculture while he was Commissioner of Agriculture. In 1982 Dozier was also found to have committed additional criminal acts, including obstruction of justice, and to have thereby violated the conditions of a court ordered probationary term. On June 24, 1982, he commenced service of an aggregate sentence of from 58 months to 18 years imprisonment, followed by five years probation, and was fined \$25,000.

In January 1983, Dozier filed an application for Executive clemency with the Office of the Pardon Attorney in the Department of Justice. In accordance with standard procedures, the Office of the Pardon Attorney, headed and staffed by experienced career attorneys, obtained and evaluated pertinent information, reports, and advice concerning Dozier's application. The office recommended that Dozier's sentence be reduced, and on March 20, 1984, the Department of Justice advised the President to modify the sentence of imprisonment and probation to six years imprisonment.

The Department of Justice recommendation was based on the disparity between Dozier's original sentence and sentences imposed in similar circumstances on like offenders for

similar offenses. The disparity became evident through an evaluation of relevant data compiled by the Administrative Office of United States Courts on sentences imposed in Federal courts. Not only was Dozier's sentence comparatively long, but the convictions for racketeering and extortion that made up the pertinent statistics generally involved behavior even more severe than the acts of extortion committed by Dozier. Generally, they included offenders with serious prior criminal records whose offenses involved violence. Sentencing statistics pertaining to defendants convicted of bribery suggest an even greater disparity of sentence. In addition, sentences imposed in comparable cases in recent years upon a number of public officials in the Federal criminal justice system were reviewed, and this review again demonstrated the disparity of Dozier's sentence.

The recommendation of the Department of Justice was also based on Dozier's cooperation with law enforcement authorities after his conviction. Such cooperation provided with respect to ongoing law enforcement efforts is, as I am certain you will understand, a very important consideration in matters of this kind. Also taken into account were the guidelines of the United States Parole Commission, the length of incarceration to date, the fact that Dozier paid his fine, and the minimal additional deterrent effect to be achieved by completion of the original sentence.

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We appreciate your taking the time to share your views on this matter with us. I hope the foregoing responds to your concerns.

Sincerely,

Original signed by RAH

Richard A. Hauser
Deputy Counsel to the President

Mr. Richard S. Rice
7642 Coventry Circle
Baton Rouge, LA 70808

RAH:JGR:aea 8/29/84 ✓
cc: RAHauser/JGRoberts/Subj/Chron

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 29, 1984

Dear Ms. Viator:

Thank you for your recent letter to the President concerning the decision to commute the sentence of Gilbert L. Dozier to six years imprisonment. In light of your expressed concerns about that decision, you may be interested in more information about the facts of the case and the procedures that were followed.

Gilbert L. Dozier was convicted in the United States District Court for the Middle District of Louisiana in 1980 for violations of Federal law involving extortion and bribery. Dozier was convicted of soliciting money from individuals and businesses that were, or might have been, affected by actions of the Louisiana Department of Agriculture while he was Commissioner of Agriculture. In 1982 Dozier was also found to have committed additional criminal acts, including obstruction of justice, and to have thereby violated the conditions of a court ordered probationary term. On June 24, 1982, he commenced service of an aggregate sentence of from 58 months to 18 years imprisonment, followed by five years probation, and was fined \$25,000.

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We appreciate your taking the time to share your views on this matter with us. I hope the foregoing responds to your concerns.

Sincerely,

Original signed by RAH

Richard A. Hauser
Deputy Counsel to the President

Ms. Joyce Viator
604 Lucille Street
New Iberia, LA 70560

RAH:JGR:aea 8/29/84 ✓
cc: RAHauser/JGRoberts/SUBj/Chron

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 29, 1984

Dear Mrs. Bristol:

Thank you for your recent letter to the President concerning the decision to commute the sentence of Gilbert L. Dozier to six years imprisonment. In light of your expressed concerns about that decision, you may be interested in more information about the facts of the case and the procedures that were followed.

Gilbert L. Dozier was convicted in the United States District Court for the Middle District of Louisiana in 1980 for violations of Federal law involving extortion and bribery. Dozier was convicted of soliciting money from individuals and businesses that were, or might have been, affected by actions of the Louisiana Department of Agriculture while he was Commissioner of Agriculture. In 1982 Dozier was also found to have committed additional criminal acts, including obstruction of justice, and to have thereby violated the conditions of a court ordered probationary term. On June 24, 1982, he commenced service of an aggregate sentence of from 58 months to 18 years imprisonment, followed by five years probation, and was fined \$25,000.

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We appreciate your taking the time to share your views on this matter with us. I hope the foregoing responds to your concerns.

Sincerely,

Original signed by RAH

Richard A. Hauser
Deputy Counsel to the President

Mrs. J. W. Bristol
641 N. Allyson Drive
Baton Rouge, LA 70815

RAH:JGR:aea 8/29/84 ✓
cc: RAHauser/JGRoberts/Subj/Chron

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 29, 1984

Dear Mr. Gaudet:

Thank you for your recent letter to the President concerning the decision to commute the sentence of Gilbert L. Dozier to six years imprisonment. In light of your expressed concerns about that decision, you may be interested in more information about the facts of the case and the procedures that were followed.

Gilbert L. Dozier was convicted in the United States District Court for the Middle District of Louisiana in 1980 for violations of Federal law involving extortion and bribery. Dozier was convicted of soliciting money from individuals and businesses that were, or might have been, affected by actions of the Louisiana Department of Agriculture while he was Commissioner of Agriculture. In 1982 Dozier was also found to have committed additional criminal acts, including obstruction of justice, and to have thereby violated the conditions of a court ordered probationary term. On June 24, 1982, he commenced service of an aggregate sentence of from 58 months to 18 years imprisonment, followed by five years probation, and was fined \$25,000.

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We appreciate your taking the time to share your views on this matter with us. I hope the foregoing responds to your concerns.

Sincerely,

Original signed by RAH

Richard A. Hauser
Deputy Counsel to the President

Mr. Marcel R. Gaudet
2439 Danbury Drive
New Orleans, LA 70114

RAH:JGR:aea 8/29/84 ✓
cc: RAHauser/JGRoberts/Subj/Chron

THE WHITE HOUSE
~~WASHINGTON~~

Ann,

Please give standard

Dozier reply.

Thanks

LM

file

Jack R. Diamond, M.D.

Diamond Medical Corporation

General Practice

Home Office:
Route 1, Box 341-I
Pearl River, Louisiana 70452
504-863-3379

October 22, 1984

987 Robert Road
Slidell, Louisiana 70458
504-643-5780

Mr. Richard A. Hauser
Deputy Counsel to the President
THE WHITE HOUSE
Washington, D.C.

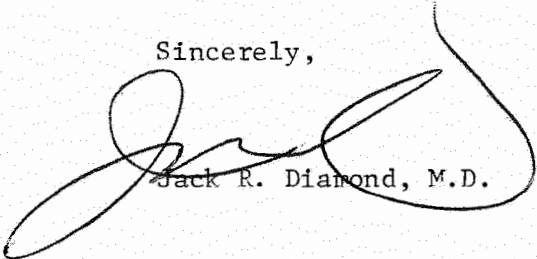
Mr. Hauser:

Your letter of August 31 (copy attached) only serves to prove my point. Gil Dozier got an honest and well deserved sentence. Certainly it exceeded the sentences usually meted out for the same or similar offenses in this area. Louisiana's crooked politicians are accustomed to getting only nominal punishment --- brief terms in "country club" prisons, early commutation of sentences, or suspended sentences with probation.

It was a relief to know Gil Dozier got what he deserved for a change, and it was a sore disappointment that his punishment was lightened just because political crooks are usually coddled in this state and quickly turned loose to prey on the public again.

I am still a Reagan supporter, but I think the Justice Department gave him some sorry advice on this issue.

Sincerely,


Jack R. Diamond, M.D.

JRD/eab



Diamond Medical Corporation

987 Robert Road
Slidell, Louisiana 70458



Mr. Richard A. Hauser
Deputy Counsel to the President
THE WHITE HOUSE
Washington, D.C.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

9/20/84

TO:

JGR

FROM: Richard A. Hauser *RAH*
Deputy Counsel to the President

FYI:

give 'em s tel

COMMENT:

ACTION:

9987 E. Long
Baton Rouge, La
70815

Mr. Richard A. Hauser
Deputy Counsel to the President

Dear Sir:

I appreciated your
recent letter of explanation as
to why Mr. President reduced
the sentence of Mr. Bill Dozier.

I accept your explanation,
and thank you very much.

Sincerely
Gladys R. Ring

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

10/15

TO: John Roberts

FROM: **Richard A. Hauser**
Deputy Counsel to the President

FYI: X

COMMENT: _____

ACTION: _____

The White House
Washington

Attn: Mr Richard A. Hauser
Deputy Counsel to the President

Re: Gil Dozier

Dear Mr Hauser,

Thank you for taking the time to write me your letter of 31 Aug 84. The things you said in your letter are all true I'm sure and I don't mean to be disrespectful, but it is still only a bunch of crap.

President Reagan followed someone's advice and screwed up. The President should fire the person(s) that advised him to reduce the sentence of Dozier.

Mr Dozier was tried and convicted of very serious crimes and I have found no one locally that thinks his original sentence was excessive. Anyway you look at it, it smells of dirty politics. Mr Dozier should have to spend every day in jail that was on his original sentence. Perhaps he did receive a longer sentence than the people you refer to in your letter but perhaps they didn't receive a sentence as long as they should have.

I like President Reagan and I will vote for him this time but it is hard for me to do it simply because of what he did on this matter. If I had the opportunity to give the President any advice ^{it would be} to try and retract this act and let Dozier's original sentence stand. Letting Dozier off so easy only encourages wrongdoing on Louisiana politicians and you know as well as I that they don't need any encouragement. Also I would do as I said above, and that is to fire the person(s) that gave the President that dumb advice. I wonder if anyone has given any thought to getting the FBI to check and see if there was any payoffs or something of that nature involved?

President Reagan said something to the effect that the Republican Administration was trying to give the Government back to the people in the recent TV debate. If reducing Dozier's sentence is an example, then tell him not to give us anymore. The case was tried, appeals denied and this is what I call justice, not reducing his sentence.

To
JGR "fry"
and
ftr

I am enclosing a recent newspaper article on the subject that you may find to be interesting reading. I don't believe you people up there in Washington realize what a bad mistake you have made. No matter what discussions are taking place in the coffee shops, the democrats rear back in their chairs and bring up the subject of President Reagan reducing Dozier's Sentence. There is no defense so all we can do is agree with the democrats.

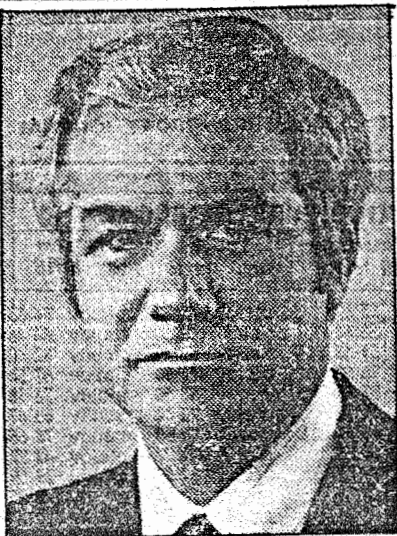
Again I want to thank you for your letter and you made a good effort to explain what happen but you just don't have any ammunition that is powerful enough to erase or blow away the act itself.

Sincerely

Jay Williams

Jay Williams
506 Woodbine
Shreveport, Louisiana 71105

Member Number 3398030



Gil Dozier

Judge won't cut more from Dozier sentence

BATON ROUGE (AP) — A federal judge has refused to reduce former Agriculture Commissioner Gil Dozier's prison sentence, which already had been cut significantly by President Reagan.

In refusing to reduce the sentence he imposed, U.S. District Judge Frank J. Polozola said the prison term he gave Dozier was not excessive. He added that Dozier "sought to undermine the very heart of the criminal justice system."

Dozier originally was sentenced to 10 years in prison for racketeering and extortion, but — before he

reported to prison — another eight years was added to his term by Polozola.

President Reagan shortened the sentence in June to six years. Dozier is being held at the Federal Correctional Institution in Fort Worth, Texas.

"The court believes today as it did at the time of sentencing that the 18-year jail term was required, justified and in the interest of justice. Thus, the court surely cannot reduce the six-year sentence to an even lower sentence," Polozola said.