

3/18/02


Patricia G. Solley
Unit Chief
Office of Public and
Congressional Affairs

Dear Mrs. Solley:

I received your letter dated March 8, 2002, on March 16th. On March 8, 2002, you informed me for the first time the *Judicial Watch Press Release and Mission Statement*, which were approved by the FBI process in a letter dated February 5, 2002, had subsequently been forward to the United States Attorney's offices in Chicago and Milwaukee. One or both of these offices requested the following be removed from the previously approved *Judicial Watch Press Release*, "...Agent Wright promptly initiated corollary 'Act of Terrorism' criminal investigations on the subjects" (2nd paragraph).

As I informed you on the evening of March 8, the *Judicial Watch Press Release* was given to a reporter from the *New York Times* during February 2002, after your office approved the publication of the document on February 5th. In addition, per our previous conversations, I was assured any information obtained via public records, sources and the Freedom of Information Act which I incorporated into the documents I have submitted for review would be approved. As I mentioned to you on the evening of March 8th, the above sentence you are now asking to be removed from the approved *Judicial Watch Press Release* was obtained via the Freedom of Information process from my September 1995, Performance Appraisal. I also mentioned this document was reviewed twice by FBIHQ and twice by the Chicago Division prior to it being released to me.

I do not wish to be difficult; however, I have followed the processes which have been established by the FBI. If the statement had not been approved via the Freedom of Information Act, I would have gladly removed the statement prior to any further disseminations. In fact, one of my performance appraisals contained information which if released would identify a source; however, to protect this source I immediately removed the information myself to prevent it from ever being released in the future. Therefore, per advice of counsel, this sentence will remain in their press release.


Robert G. Wright, Jr.