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MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 11, 1983

FOR: FRED F. FIELDING

FROM: JOHN G. ROBERTS *JGR*

SUBJECT: Draft Proclamation Designating
May 1, 1983, as "Law Day, U.S.A."

Dodie Livingston has requested comments by noon tomorrow on the draft Law Day proclamation. As might be expected in view of the fact that the proclamation -- originally prepared by the ABA -- was edited in this office, I have neither legal nor stylistic objections to it. OMB has indicated its approval. I have advised Livingston's office that the proclamation must be ready for the signing ceremony Thursday, April 14, at 4:30.

Attachment

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 11, 1983

FOR: DODIE LIVINGSTON
DIRECTOR, SPECIAL PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGES

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

SUBJECT: Draft Proclamation Designating
May 1, 1983, as "Law Day, U.S.A."

Counsel's Office has reviewed the above-referenced draft proclamation and finds no objection to it from a legal perspective.

FFF:JGR:ph 4/11/83
cc: FFFielding
JGRoberts ✓
Subject
Chron.

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 11, 1983

FOR: DODIE LIVINGSTON
DIRECTOR, SPECIAL PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGES

FROM: FRED F. FIELDING
COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Draft Proclamation Designating
May 1, 1983, as "Law Day, U.S.A."

Counsel's Office has reviewed the above-referenced draft proclamation and finds no objection to it from a legal perspective.

**WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET**

- O - OUTGOING
- H - INTERNAL
- I - INCOMING
Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD) 1 1

Name of Correspondent: Nodie Livingston

MI Mail Report User Codes: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

Subject: Draft proclamation designating May 1, 1983, as "Law Day, U.S.A."

| ROUTE TO: | | ACTION | DISPOSITION | | | |
|-------------------|--------------|-------------------------|------------------------|------------------|----------|--------------------------|
| Office/Agency | (Staff Name) | Action Code | Tracking Date YY/MM/DD | Type of Response | Code | Completion Date YY/MM/DD |
| <u>CU Holland</u> | | ORIGINATOR | <u>83104109</u> | | | <u>1 1</u> |
| <u>CUAT 18</u> | | Referral Note: <u>D</u> | <u>83104109</u> | | <u>S</u> | <u>83104112</u> |
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- ACTION CODES:**
- A - Appropriate Action
 - C - Comment/Recommendation
 - D - Draft Response
 - F - Furnish Fact Sheet to be used as Enclosure
 - I - Info Copy Only/No Action Necessary
 - R - Direct Reply w/Copy
 - S - For Signature
 - X - Interim Reply
- DISPOSITION CODES:**
- A - Answered
 - B - Non-Special Referral
 - C - Completed
 - S - Suspended
- FOR OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE:**
- Type of Response = Initials of Signer
 - Code = "A"
 - Completion Date = Date of Outgoing

Comments: _____

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 Send all routing updates to Central Reference (Room 75, OEOB).
 Always return completed correspondence record to Central Files.
 Refer questions about the correspondence tracking system to Central Reference, ext. 2590.

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 4/8/83 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: Draft proclamation designating May 1, 1983,
as [REDACTED]

| | ACTION | FYI | | ACTION | FYI |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| VICE PRESIDENT | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | GERGEN | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| MEESE | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | HARPER | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| BAKER | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | JAMES | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| DEAVER | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | JENKINS | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| STOCKMAN | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | MURPHY | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| CLARK | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | ROLLINS | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| DARMAN | <input type="checkbox"/> P | <input type="checkbox"/> SS | WILLIAMSON | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <i>W. Hittlesey</i> DOLE | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | WEIDENBAUM | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| DUBERSTEIN | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | BRADY/SPEAKES | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| [REDACTED] | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | ROGERS | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| FULLER | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Remarks: Draft proclamation as noted above. Draft prepared by the White House Counsel's Office and edited in this office. Please comment as appropriate.

URGENT: Requires IMMEDIATE ATTENTION.
Presidential signing ceremony pending.

JACK WELLS
(for) Dodie Livingston (x2941)
(for) Richard G. Darman
Assistant to the President

Response:



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

GENERAL COUNSEL

April 5, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT
FROM: MICHAEL J. HOROWITZ
COUNSEL TO THE DIRECTOR *MH*
SUBJECT: LAW DAY U.S.A., 1983

Enclosed is the annual Law Day proclamation which, pursuant to a joint resolution of the Congress (75 Stat. 43; 36 U.S.C. 164), calls for the observance of May 1, 1983, as Law Day U.S.A.

The proposed proclamation was submitted by the American Bar Association through the White House Office, where it was edited before submission to the Office of Management and Budget. It has been further revised in this office to reflect minor editorial changes.

The theme for this year's observance of Law Day U.S.A. is "Sharing in Justice."

The proposed proclamation has the approval of the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

Enclosure

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A PROCLAMATION

Our Founding Fathers were guided by a belief in the dignity of the individual when they framed our system of government. The Constitution and the Bill of Rights guarantee the blessings of liberty to all, regardless of race, religion, or national origin. These cherished documents bequeath to all Americans the right to equal justice under law and the means to safeguard this right through the legal system.

Today marks our Nation's 26th annual celebration of Law Day, a day set aside for all Americans to reflect on our legal heritage, the rights we enjoy under our democracy, and the role of law in our society. The theme of this year's Law Day observance is "Sharing in Justice," highlighting both the rights and the responsibilities of each citizen as a participant in shaping and protecting our laws and system of justice.

Each new generation of Americans inherits as a birth-right the legal protections secured, protected, and expanded by the vigilance and sacrifice of preceding generations. These rights -- freedom of speech, trial by jury, personal liberty, a representative and limited government, and equal protection of the laws, to name but a few -- give every citizen a vested interest in American justice.

Active participation in our system serves to protect these interests and preserve them for future generations. It is participation that begins in our own neighborhoods, at town meetings, and during open sessions of city government. Meaningful sharing and participation in our system of

justice must start where one is affected most: close to home. This is the basis and strength of our Federal system.

Sharing in justice also means working for objectives within the legal system, voting thoughtfully and intelligently, expressing views to our elected representatives, serving as jurors, and volunteering to make our neighborhoods, schools, and communities better places for all. ~~It is~~ the continuous involvement of the people with all levels of government ~~which~~ makes our system of justice work.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, proclaim Sunday, May 1, 1983, as Law Day U.S.A., and I invite the American people to observe this event with programs emphasizing the need for each citizen to share and participate in our system of justice.

I call upon the legal profession, schools, civic, service, and fraternal organizations, public bodies, libraries, the courts, all media of public information, business, the clergy, and all interested individuals and organizations to focus attention on our Nation's dedication to justice. I *also* call upon all public officials to display the flag of the United States on all government buildings open on Law Day, May 1, 1983.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this
day of _____, in the year of our Lord
nineteen hundred and eighty-three, and of the Independence
of the United States of America the two hundred and seventh.

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 13, 1983

FOR: FRED F. FIELDING
FROM: JOHN G. ROBERTS *JGR*
SUBJECT: President's Law Day Remarks

Attached are two new versions of suggested Presidential remarks for the Law Day signing ceremony, one with a quotation from Webster (which stresses the unifying aspect of justice) and the other with a quotation from Cardozo (which stresses the need for active participation in achieving justice). Perhaps one of these (I prefer Cardozo) will seem more appropriate to the Law Day theme. Incidentally, I disagree with your marginalia to the effect that the Niebuhr quotation was inapt: by saying that man's inclination to injustice made democracy necessary, Niebuhr was saying that the involvement of the people (through democracy) is necessary to prevent injustice -- precisely the theme of this year's Law Day. In any event, if neither of these two new pearls strike a responsive chord, I will come up with others.

It's a pleasure for me to welcome to the White House today the distinguished representatives of the legal profession who have gathered to witness the signing of the Proclamation designating May 1st as "Law Day U.S.A." For over a quarter of a century, we Americans have set aside this day to commemorate our shared commitment to the principle inscribed over the entrance to the Supreme Court: "Equal Justice Under Law."

The theme of this year's observance is "Sharing in Justice," highlighting the importance of active participation by all citizens in our legal system. Justice Cardozo once wrote: "The process of justice is never finished, but reproduces itself, generation after generation, in ever-changing forms, and today, as in the past, it calls for the bravest and the best." Just as every citizen must have the opportunity to enjoy the legal rights secured by our forebears, so too every citizen must share the responsibility of preserving those rights so that our commitment to justice can be passed on to succeeding generations. That responsibility takes many forms, including voting, jury duty, and serving in local government. As we observe Law Day this year, let us reaffirm the responsibility of Americans from all walks of life to serve justice, so that we can continue to share its blessings.

And now I shall sign the proclamation.

It's a pleasure for me to welcome to the White House today the distinguished representatives of the legal profession who have gathered to witness the signing of the Proclamation designating May 1st as "Law Day U.S.A." For over a quarter of a century, we Americans have set aside this day to commemorate our shared commitment to the principle inscribed over the entrance to the Supreme Court: "Equal Justice Under Law."

The theme of this year's observance is "Sharing in Justice," highlighting the importance of active participation by all citizens in our legal system. One of our great lawyer-statesmen, Daniel Webster, said that justice is "the ligament which holds civilized people and civilized nations together." Just as every citizen must have the opportunity to enjoy the legal rights secured by our forebears, so too every citizen must share the responsibility of preserving those rights so that our commitment to justice can be passed on to succeeding generations. That responsibility takes many forms, including voting, jury duty, and serving in local government. As we observe Law Day this year, let us reaffirm the responsibility of Americans from all walks of life to serve justice, so that we can continue to share its blessings.

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The theme of this year's observance is "Sharing in Justice," highlighting the importance of active participation by all citizens in our legal system. The theologian Reinhold Niebuhr once wrote: "Man's capacity for justice makes democracy possible, but man's inclination to injustice makes democracy necessary." Just as every citizen enjoys the legal rights secured by our forebears, so too every citizen must share the responsibility of preserving those rights so that our commitment to justice can be passed on to succeeding generations. That responsibility takes many forms, including voting, jury duty, and serving in local government. As we observe Law Day this year, let us reaffirm the responsibility of Americans from all walks of life to serve justice, so that we can continue to share its blessings.

And now I shall sign the proclamation.

Great quote, but it is the reverse of the "Law Day" theme

must have the responsibility

We need another quote - or
The in Sharing in justice →

4.51



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

February 28, 1986

Dear Bill:

Thank you for your letter requesting a Presidential proclamation and ceremony for Law Day, May 1, 1986. I have submitted a scheduling request to the appropriate offices here at the White House and will let you know the details as soon as I hear something. I look forward to reviewing the draft proclamation you have kindly offered to prepare, and to working with you on the celebration of Law Day.

The theme you have chosen -- "Foundations of Freedom" -- is particularly appropriate in light of the coming Bicentennial of the Constitution. I am confident that this year's Law Day observance can play a significant part in developing a meaningful celebration of our constitutional heritage.

In that regard, I enjoyed reading the draft of your President's Page article. I just hope you have left a few good points for this President to make in his Proclamation!

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Orig. signed by FFF

Fred F. Fielding
Counsel to the President

William W. Falsgraf, Esquire
President, American Bar Association
American Bar Center
750 N. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, Illinois 60611

FFF/JGR:jmk
cc: FFFielding
✓JGRoberts
subject
chron.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

February 28, 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR FRED F. FIELDING

FROM: JOHN G. ROBERTS *JGR*

SUBJECT: Law Day

The President of the American Bar Association, William Falsgraf, has written to request a Presidential proclamation and ceremony for Law Day, May 1, 1986. As you know, such a proclamation is authorized by 36 U.S.C. § 164. The theme of this year's Law Day observance is not, as some have supposed, "The Transition to Private Practice," but rather "Foundations of Freedom."

Dianna has submitted a scheduling request. The attached reply for your signature notes that such a request is pending, and takes Falsgraf up on his offer to provide a draft proclamation (which I will revise).

ID # 382009 3CU

WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

- O - OUTGOING
- H - INTERNAL
- I - INCOMING
Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD) 1 1

PROOF
RAW - Hold for Peter Walker ? PLS see me -

Name of Correspondent: Bill Ingraham

MI Mail Report User Codes: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

Subject: law part

| ROUTE TO: | | ACTION | | DISPOSITION | |
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| <u>Curtoll</u> | | ORIGINATOR | <u>86102103</u> | <u>PY</u> | <u>1 1</u> |
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- Type of Response = Initials of Signer
 - Code = "A"
 - Completion Date = Date of Outgoing

Comments: request for proclamation signing ceremony, May 186

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 Always return completed correspondence record to Central Files.
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AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
WILLIAM W. FALSGRAF
AMERICAN BAR CENTER
750 N. LAKE SHORE DRIVE
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611
TELEPHONE: 312/988-5100
ABA/NET: ABA007

382009 *CU*

January 28, 1986

Mr. Fred F. Fielding
Counsel to the President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Fred:

Law Day, May 1, 1986 is approaching and once again we would like to respectfully request a Presidential proclamation in honor of this event. We would also be very grateful if the President would preside over a Law Day Proclamation signing ceremony at the White House, as he has done for the past several years.

This year's Law Day observance is especially significant because its theme, "Foundations of Freedom," is designed to prepare our nation for next year's celebration of our Constitution's Bicentennial. Its focus will highlight the important legal foundations upon which our Constitution is based.

Educational materials will show, for example, the derivation of our constitutional concepts such as due process, trial by jury, and others, from earlier statements of similar ideas as contained in the Magna Carta of 1215, the Confirmation Cartarum of 1297, and the Act of Parliament abolishing the Court of Star Chamber in 1641. We are hopeful that Law Day 1986 will begin a sustained public education effort over the course of the Bicentennial, starting now and continuing through the anniversary of the Bill of Rights in 1991.

Therefore, we believe Law Day 1986 will be an especially appropriate opportunity for the President to issue a major statement emphasizing the importance of our constitutional form of government, its heritage, and the rights and responsibilities of our citizens under our Constitution.

TO
2/8
① ABA for scheduling request.

Mr. Fred F. Fielding
Page two
January 28, 1986

It is hoped that the ceremony can be scheduled either the beginning of April, on the 1st, 2nd, 3rd or 4th; or the middle of April, on the 14th, 15th, or 16th. If possible we also ask that the importance of this initiative be further underscored by inviting leaders of the bench and bar to attend the ceremony. Such an invitation would serve as a symbol of the fact that an independent judiciary and bar are essential to the success of our constitutional system. We would be pleased to help prepare a draft of the proclamation for your consideration, and to assist the White House staff with any other details.

I look forward to hearing from you, and thank you for your cooperation.

Cordially,



William W. Falsgraf

P.S. - I am enclosing a draft of my President's Page on Law Day 1986 which will appear in the March issue of the ABA Journal, and which contains additional information you may find of interest.

WWF/lm
4427g/11
Encls.

REVERSING THE THREAT TO OUR
FOUNDATIONS OF FREEDOM

BY AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION
PRESIDENT, WILLIAM W. FALSGRAF

PRESIDENT'S PAGE, MARCH, 1986
AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION
JOURNAL

Is an accused person innocent until proven guilty? According to our Constitution, the answer is obviously "yes." But according to a majority of Americans in a recent public opinion poll, the answer is "no." This response, unfortunately, is not an aberration. Citizen awareness of our nation's history and legal system is disturbingly low. A 1985 survey by the National Endowment for the Humanities, for example, showed that one out of three high school students could not even place the signing of the Declaration of Independence in the right century!

Such a lack of understanding of the fundamental principles embodied in our legal system concerns me as a lawyer, and as a citizen. It should also concern you. It threatens our foundations of freedom.

While the preservation of constitutional government in America may not require every citizen to be a legal scholar, the founders of our republic based the design of our form of government on faith in an informed electorate. Throughout our history, we have accepted the proposition that -- as Woodrow Wilson said in an address to the ABA in 1894 -- "every citizen should know what the law is," and "how it came into existence."

For the rule of law to thrive in any nation, it must be understood and respected by the people. When this is not the case, a decline in the authority and viability of even the best designed system is inevitable.

The evidence of this risk is real. Constitutional government, despite its success for nearly 199 years in our country, is a fragile institution elsewhere. In most countries throughout the world, the constitution, if it exists at all, is honored more in the breach than the observance. The concept of a fundamental set of norms which must be adhered to not only by the people, but by the government itself, is unacceptable to all but the most enlightened societies. Time and again, we see governments bending the fundamental law, or ignoring it altogether, in the name of national security or public welfare. In order to prevent such an occurrence here, we must insure that our citizens remain knowledgeable and respectful of our enduring fundamental law.

LAW DAY '86

What can be done by the individual lawyer to counteract the spreading lack of awareness about our basic legal institutions?

I suggest that Law Day 1986, this May 1st, offers an extraordinary opportunity for every lawyer to begin to make a significant contribution to alleviating this problem. The theme of Law Day this year, appropriately, is the Foundations of Freedom. This theme is designed to focus the nation's attention on, and prepare the way for, next year's Constitutional Bicentennial celebrations. We will be highlighting the important legal foundations upon which our Constitution is based.

Background materials, which are available from the American Bar Association, will be used by local Law Day committees to demonstrate that the authors of our Constitution would have been severely hampered in their work, if they had not been able to call upon a legacy of principles developed over the course of centuries. These materials show, for example, the derivation of our constitutional concepts such as due process, trial by jury, and others, from earlier expressions of similar ideas in the Magna Carta in 1215, the Confirmatio Cartarum in 1297, and the Act of Parliament abolishing the Court of Star Chamber in 1641.

By contacting your state or local bar association and volunteering to work with a local Law Day committee -- or helping to establish one if none exists -- you can begin what I hope will be a sustained educational effort over the course of the Bicentennial, beginning now and continuing through the anniversary of the Bill of Rights in 1991.

If our legal institutions are to be preserved, public understanding of their role and development must be restored. For each of us, as lawyers, the Bicentennial of the Constitution should not be a passive experience. It is about to begin, on May 1st with Law Day '86. I urge you to join us in making this Law Day and the Constitutional Bicentennial celebration it begins, the success it ought to be.

###

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