

March 29, 2002

Via Telecopy
(202) 646-5199

Larry Klayman, Esquire
Chairman and General Counsel
Judicial Watch, Inc.
501 School Street, S.W.
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Washington, D.C. 20024

Dear Mr. Klayman:

Thank you for your letter of March 28th sent to us by facsimile after 8:00 p.m. last night.

While I expect to be able to provide you with an official response today, your clients' desire to be interviewed by Judy Miller of the New York Times is subject to certain conditions of employment agreements, FBI policies, grand jury secrecy rules, applicable statutes and other controlling laws, rules and policies. While we share your desire to resolve this as quickly as possible, only the FBI can properly authorize the disclosure of official FBI information and even then, only information that is not otherwise precluded from disclosure can be the subject of authorization. The letter you sent last night indicating you will treat the passing of a time certain as authorization, therefore, does not constitute FBI consent for SAs Wright and Vincent to be interviewed.

We are always glad to work through these issues with you and your clients, and to do so as expeditiously as we can. We do appreciate your clients' desire to go forward with the interviews by Judy Miller and regret any inconvenience this intervening time may have caused. As you can imagine, given the

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nature of the subject matter, it was only prudent on our part to ask for review of these requests by the U.S. Attorney's Office and others. These reviews raised extensive and substantial concerns regarding Rule of Criminal Procedure 6e which prohibits disclosure of matters occurring before a grand jury, as interpreted, as well as applicable Department of Justice policy. While these reviews did take a little extra time, we are attempting to provide our employees with more specific guidance so that they can be interviewed by the media with a solid understanding of what the controlling authorities are and what areas are problematic should they be discussed with the media. To do otherwise, we believe, is a disservice to our employees and would not provide you, as their counsel, with adequate guideposts for keeping the interviews within the authorization.

Accordingly, your March 28th letter does not constitute FBI authorization for Special Agents Wright and Vincent to be interviewed. I can assure you that we are moving expeditiously given the sensitivities and complexities at issue here.

Sincerely yours,

John E. Collingwood
Assistant Director
Office of Public and
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