

Date: Saturday, September 13, 1997 3:37 pm
From: SMO01(MARGOLIS)
Subject: query

eileen:i note on monday's calendar that you are meeting with the deputy to discuss trentadue-does that involve the plaintiff's motion to disqualify the u.s. atty and the civil division from defending the u.s. in the civil suit? if so i got a draft of civil's response which they say they have to file on monday.

USA010 0252

Date: 10/01/1997 07:41 pm (Wednesday)
From: Juliette N. Kayyem
To: orange.of21.SMO01!WINSTON
Subject: Trentadue mission

This is like coordinating the invasion of Normandy. We are on for Monday; the declination memo is done. Is this ok with Eric's schedule (I can call whoever does that.) I talked to Faith and she is going to think about the best way to approach Hatch, and possibly Dorgan, and I will get back to you. Also, we will be contacting the FBI and Jesse Trentadue at the same time (about 2 hours before the press release.) Thanks, jnk

Date: Monday, October 6, 1997 9:39 am
From: SMO02(HARKINSA)
Subject: Trentadue -Reply

We rec'd a similar call from the Bureau on Friday nite. We are coordinating with them, and may need help from you, John H, on that front.

Andy, too, has been talking to Sen. Dorgan for months.

As of Friday, we hadn't seen the draft press release -- tho I gather it's been circulated far and wide.

It will be very important to pull this thing together with cover memo; talking points; Q&A given that Sens. Hatch and Dorgan at are VERY up to speed on this and should be expected to probe; plan for calling other Senators; plan for calling staff; possible letter to other Members who've written in; agreed upon timetable that takes into account any after action expected ant the fact that there are no votes in Senate until tomorrow which means Senators won't be around; possible House votes tonight.

USA010 0266

Date: 10/07/1997 03:40 pm (Tuesday)
Subject: Trentadue and the USAO

Bill -

Al has informed the USAO about the roll-out plans. He has also asked the USAO to contact the DA 1) to get the DA's request for our GJ material in writing (so we can attach it to our motion) , and 2) to let the DA weigh in on our plan to disclose non-6(e) material to Hatch. NB: We just learned that our FOIA shop often declines to disclose when we assert that disclosure could impair a state criminal investigation even after our investigation is closed.

Ricky
cc: Al, Kevin, Sheryl

USA010 0264

Date: Wednesday, October 8, 1997 11:25 am
From: SMO01(MAYEREIL)
Subject: Trentadue

Faith: we've decided to wait to call CRT on the meeting this afternoon until we can send along to them your list of issues that need addressing. I want to give them a chance to see it and be in a position to respond at the meeting. So the sooner you can get it up to me, the better. We've set the meeting for 2:30 in your conference room. Thanks, Eileen

Date: Thursday, October 9, 1997 12:30 pm
From: SMO02(SCOTTFIN)
Subject: Call to Senator Dorgan

Senator Dorgan plans to leave the office tonight around 5 p.m. to go to the Orioles game. He will be home between 5 and 6 p.m. His office has told me that he can be reached by them if we call the main office number between 5:30 and 6 --- 224-2551.

His staff gave me his portable phone # 202-321-3674. However, this is an issue that probably should not be covered in such a call.

If we do not reach him tonight, how do you want to handle the press release?

USA010 0208

Date: Thursday, October 9, 1997 12:50 pm
From: SMO01(MAYEREIL)
Subject: Call to Senator Dorgan -Reply

Nancy: thanks for this information. I agree that we need to decide whether to release this tonight, despite our ability (or lack thereof) to reach Dorgan. I think it's very important that we reach out to the press before or at the same time that we expect Trentadue to do so. That's my two cents worth. Let me know what the people in OLA say. Thanks, Eileen

USA010 0260

Date: Thursday, October 9, 1997 1:22 pm
From: SMO01(MAYEREIL)
Subject: Perhaps final Trentadue release... -Reply

what do you think the last sentence should say? Eileen

USA010 0242



Department of Justice

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1997

CR
(202) 616-2777
TDD (202) 514-1888

JUSTICE DEPARTMENT CLOSES INVESTIGATION INTO TRENTADUE DEATH

Forwards Findings to Inspector General for Possible Action

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- After an extensive investigation into the death of Kenneth Michael Trentadue at the Federal Transfer Center (FTC) in Oklahoma City, the Justice Department's Civil Rights Division today ended its probe, determining that the evidence does not establish a violation of federal criminal law.

"We followed every lead, and we investigated every allegation about potential misconduct by prison personnel in the death of Kenneth Trentadue," said Isabelle Katz Pinzler, Acting Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights. "After a lengthy investigation, involving scores of interviews and volumes of documents, we concluded that the evidence does not support a federal prosecution."

The Criminal Section of the Justice Department's Civil Rights Division, drawing upon the resources of the FBI in Oklahoma City, opened an investigation into allegations that Trentadue may have been the victim of a federal civil rights crime.

OPTIONAL FORM 99 (7-90)

FAX TRANSMITTAL

of pages ▶

To	<i>Gilcen Mayer</i>	From	
Dept./Agency		Phone #	
Fax #	<i>4-0368</i>	Fax #	

NSN 7540-01-317-7088

5090-101

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

USA010 0239

- 2 -

Trentadue, a federal prisoner, was temporarily housed at the FTC following his arrest for parole violations. On the morning of August 20, 1995, he asked to be moved out of the general population area of the facility and into protective custody in the segregated housing unit. During a scheduled cell count shortly after 3:00 a.m. on August 21, 1995, Trentadue was found hanging in his cell.

Career prosecutors from the Civil Rights Division gathered voluminous documentary evidence and details from witnesses regarding the facts and circumstances surrounding the death. Federal prosecutors worked with a grand jury in Oklahoma in conducting a careful review of the evidence. During the review, experts were consulted at the state and federal levels, and scores of witnesses were interviewed, including prisoners, correctional officers, prison officials, law enforcement investigators, forensic experts and medical personnel.

The investigation into all allegations and potential leads, however, failed to establish credible evidence that any Bureau of Prison personnel violated federal civil rights laws. Nor did it establish evidence that was inconsistent with a conclusion that Trentadue committed suicide.

This matter will now be referred to the Office of Inspector General to determine whether the conduct of any federal employee in connection with the death of Trentadue and its aftermath may have violated administrative rules and procedures. The Justice

(MORE)

USA010 0240

- 3 -

Department will also work cooperatively with state and local officials including the appropriate Oklahoma state district attorney in their efforts to determine whether state criminal laws were violated.

#

97-423

Date: Thursday, October 9, 1997 2:28 pm
From: SMO02(FOIS)
Subject: Call to Senator Dorgan -Reply

No press release without some kind of communication to Dorgan.
We aint looking for press on this. Hill takes priority.

A.

Date: Thursday, October 9, 1997 3:08 pm
From: SMO01(MAYEREIL)
Subject: Call to Senator Dorgan -Reply -Forwarded

I get the message. But, does a phone call to his office tonight
after ERic gets back count as "some kind of communication?"

USA010 0235

Date: Thursday, October 9, 1997 9:25 pm
From: SMO02 (MARLINMY)
Subject: Trentadue release is out...

To all:

The Trentadue press release went out Thursday evening at about 6:45 PM, after Hatch, Dorgan and Jesse Trentadue were informed.

I spoke with the regional AP reporter and the Daily Okl. We also faxed out the release to the OK regional media, as well as to our regulars.

I understand that, at this time, Jesse is already doing radio interviews. He's basically saying our inquiry was a sham and that now he'll work with the local D.A.

I will get everyone the final version of the release that went out, and will also circulate any clips we obtain in the morning.

Thanks,

Myron

USA010 0202

Date: Wednesday, December 3, 1997 8:24 pm
From: SMO01(LITTROBE)
Subject: Trentadue, trentadon't

Eileen --

The AG made mention today of a letter that HATCH had written about Trentadue, enclosing the name of a witness, that was routed by Exec Sec to the IG for some reason. She wants to make sure that it gets to the investigators. Can you make sure it does?

Thanks.

Bob

USA010 0271