

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

DATE: 9-17-96

TO: JOHN O'CONNOR

FROM: White House Counsel SHORI
2nd Floor, West Wing x6-2632

- ☒ FYI
- ☐ Appropriate Action
- ☐ Let's Discuss
- ☐ Per Our Conversation
- ☐ Per Your Request
- ☐ Please Return
- ☐ Other

*file
Marty
Hughes*

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 17, 1996

Mr. William Burga
President
Ohio AFL-CIO
271 East State Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

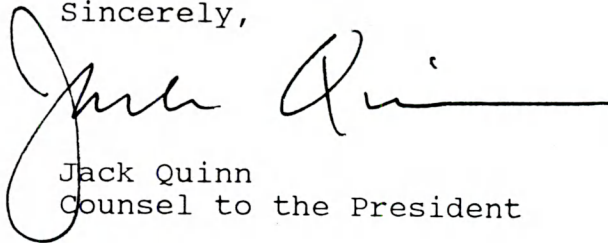
Dear Mr. Burga:

Thank you for your letter to Harold Ickes concerning Mr. Martin Hughes. Mr. Ickes has asked me to respond on his behalf.

After reviewing all of the information available, Mr. Hughes' application for a pardon was denied by President Clinton in September, 1995. In making his decision, President Clinton considered the recommendations of the U.S. Department of Justice and other federal agencies, along with the advice of numerous parties. Mr. Hughes will be eligible to apply for a pardon once again in September, 1997.

Again, thank you for your letter. This office appreciates having received your views on this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jack Quinn", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jack Quinn
Counsel to the President

cc: Harold Ickes
Assistant to the President and
Deputy Chief of Staff

Margaret Colgate Love
Pardon Attorney

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 20, 1996

Handwritten in a circle:
Dawn
file
1/2

Mr. William Burga
President
Ohio, AFL-CIO
271 East State Street
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Mr. Burga:

I am writing regarding your 9 May letter concerning Marty Hughes. I have forwarded the materials to Jack Quinn, Counsel to the President.

While I appreciate your request, it is White House policy not to get involved with pardon requests pending with the Department of Justice prior to the Attorney General's recommendation to the President. It is my understanding that the Attorney General has not yet made a recommendation to the President in this matter.

Please feel free to contact Mr. Quinn directly with any further questions. He can be reached at (202)456-2632.

Sincerely,

Handwritten: (Hick) S. C.

Harold Ickes
Assistant to the President and
Deputy Chief of Staff

cc: Jack Quinn

cc: DAWN 7-16/RL
CC w/ NOTE TO DAWN
PLS. HANDLE
6-3

ohio afl-cio

May 9, 1996

5/13 copy to
Jon O'C

Harold Ickes
Assistant to the President &
Deputy Chief of Staff
White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Ickes:

Enclosed you will find a letter I sent to Mr. David M. Strauss, dated March 15, 1996, with enclosures and my request for the President to pardon Marty Hughes.

Marty and I also talked with you at the Bal Harbour Florida meeting in February, and you indicated that you would call or contact Mr. Hughes, but he indicates to me that you haven't. I would appreciate very much if you would follow-up on this matter and request the President to pardon Marty Hughes.

Very truly yours,

William A. Burga
WILLIAM A. BURGA
President

WAB:dw
enclosures

Ohio afl-cio

March 15, 1996

William A. Burga, *President*

Donald K. Day, *Secretary-Treasurer*

VICE PRESIDENT

MEMBERSHIP

RELATIONS

EDUCATION

WELFARE

RECREATION

COMMUNITY

OUTREACH

ADMINISTRATION

FINANCE

LEGAL

TECHNOLOGY

SALES

MARKETING

RESEARCH

DEVELOPMENT

OPERATIONS

MAINTENANCE

SECURITY

COMPLIANCE

ENVIRONMENT

QUALITY

INTEGRITY

TRANSPARENCY

ACCOUNTABILITY

ETHICS

RESPECT

CONFIDENCE

TRUST

COOPERATION

TEAMWORK

SYNERGY

INNOVATION

CREATIVITY

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

LEADERSHIP

VISION

STRATEGY

GOALS

OBJECTIVES

RESULTS

ACHIEVEMENT

PROGRESS

ADVANCEMENT

IMPROVEMENT

PERFORMANCE

PRODUCTIVITY

EFFICIENCY

EFFECTIVENESS

QUALITY

QUANTITY

VALUE

WORTH

MEANING

PURPOSE

MISSION

VISION

GOALS

OBJECTIVES

RESULTS

ACHIEVEMENT

PROGRESS

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EFFICIENCY

EFFECTIVENESS

QUALITY

QUANTITY

VALUE

WORTH

MEANING

David M. Strauss, Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the Vice President
Washington, D.C. 20501

Dear David:

In Bal Harbour at our AFL-CIO Conference, Marty Hughes and I talked to you about a Presidential pardon for him. Marty was the long time President of the 135,000 member Cleveland AFL-CIO, as well as International Vice President for the Communication Workers of America, AFL-CIO. He was a tremendous campaigner and fund raiser. For many years he has been a major thrust for Democratic campaigns in Ohio, as well as some other states.

Ten years ago, then Attorney General Edwin Meese put Marty on trial for "false records" campaign expenditures. There was no allegation of any dishonesty involved in this matter whatsoever.

It all began when Marty sent 35 AFL-CIO members to Iowa to campaign for Jimmy Carter. Usually, they were paid their expenses in advance because it takes about two weeks to do the record keeping and issue checks. Some of Carter's campaign staff would change the assignments and the cities actually worked in were different than the cities named on the vouchers because they were made out in advance. This Meese called "false records."

Furthermore, when the Justice Department investigated these people, some of them admitted they did not spend all of their per diem or allowances. Immediately they were told they failed to report this on their income tax and they could be prosecuted for tax violations unless they would cooperate in convicting Marty Hughes of "false records." This is the kind of tactics we faced.

Enclosed is Jimmy Carter's and John Glenn's letters to the President regarding this matter. John Glenn's letter pretty well documents the situation as well as referring to Marty's combat decorations during WWII. The Justice Department does not seem to want to give the President a favorable recommendation on this matter. In New York at the AFL-CIO Convention, the President told Marty that regardless of Margaret Colgate Love's recommendation, he could act on his own to give Marty a pardon.

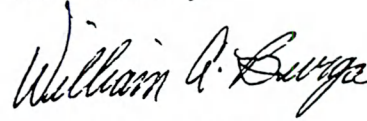
Marty has financed many campaigns over a long period of time. This included paying former DNC Chair, David Wilhelm to work on campaigns. Marty was the main force in financing Mary Ellen Withrow's campaign for Treasurer of Ohio (she is now Treasurer of the United States). She and her husband Norman are very close friends of Vice President Al Gore.

As you can see by the enclosed letters, a whole series of prominent people testified on behalf of Marty Hughes at his trial. This included Senator John Glenn, Congressman Louis Stokes, the Chief Federal Judge, and the former Chief Federal Judge, Mary Ellen Withrow, and many others, including Morton Bahr, the International President of the Communication Workers of America, AFL-CIO.

David, I want you and Vice President Al Gore to know that I am personally requesting that this pardon be granted. Marty has been of tremendous help to the Ohio AFL-CIO in our political campaigns. Attorney General Edwin Meese singled him out because he was the most effective Democrat in the State of Ohio.

I would sincerely appreciate you following up on this matter.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "William A. Burga".

WILLIAM A. BURGA
President

WAB:dw

Communications
Workers of America
AFL-CIO, CLC

301 Third Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001-2797
202/434-1110 Fax 202/434-1139

Morton Bahr
President

October 20, 1993

The President
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. President

Enclosed are copies of a letter from President Carter to Attorney General Reno and Senator Glenn to you. I fully support the views as outlined in these letters.

As president of CWA, I testified on behalf of Marty Hughes because I believe he is a decent human being and that he was wrongfully persecuted. In sentencing Mr. Hughes, the trial judge stated: If you are guilty of anything, it is overzealously representing your members.

Mr. President, the Hughes family has suffered enough. Your consideration of the request for a pardon would be most appreciated.

Respectfully,


Morton Bahr
President

Enclosures

★
★
★
★

JIMMY CARTER

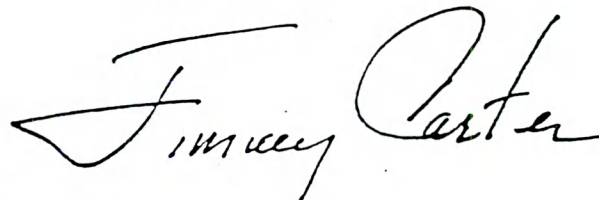
September 29, 1993

To Attorney General Janet Reno

I'm still pursuing a presidential pardon for the 1987 conviction of Martin J. Hughes. I feel that Mr. Hughes was a victim of partisan pressures and hope that his case could be re-examined in a purely judicial environment. The enclosed letter from Senator John Glenn explains Marty's case and is testimony to his fine character.

I would appreciate your acknowledging my request and informing me of the outcome of your review of this case.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jimmy Carter". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

The Honorable Janet Reno
Attorney General
Department of Justice
Constitution Avenue & 10th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20530

enclosure

cc: Marty Hughes

JOHN GLENN
OHIO

COMMITTEES

- GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS, CHAIRMAN
- ARMED SERVICES
- SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE
- SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3501

September 16, 1993

The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I want to urge your favorable consideration of the pardon request of Martin J. Hughes. Marty was convicted in 1987 of technical violations of federal record keeping requirements involving campaign contributions to various political candidates. The alleged violations stem from Marty's political activities as a union leader in Ohio.

At the time of Marty's trial, I testified on his behalf because I believe that he is not guilty of wrong doing. But instead of rehashing the entire case and its tragic conclusion, I want to describe what an extraordinary individual Marty Hughes is and what he means to countless Ohioans -- like me -- who care about him.

Marty's solid reputation has led to a bipartisan call for his pardon despite his strong ties to the Democratic party. I have enclosed statements supporting Marty's request from:

- the current Republican Governor of Ohio, George Voinovich;
- the former Democratic Governor of Ohio, Dick Celeste;
- U.S. District Court Judge George White of Cleveland, Ohio;
- U.S. District Court Judge Frank Battisti of Cleveland, Ohio;
- U.S. District Court Judge Henry Woods of Little Rock, Ark.;
- Catholic Bishop of Cleveland, Anthony Pilla; and
- my character affidavit on behalf of Marty.

Marty is a family man devoted to his wife and children. His family has shared in the pain caused by his convictions. And so have the many Ohioans who have been touched by Marty's kindness. Marty has shown real dedication to public service and to helping the less fortunate in our society.

While most his age would be seeking the comfort and leisure of retirement, Marty is currently running a non-profit eye care organization aimed at providing low-cost eye care to union members and their families. Thanks to his efforts during these days of sky-rocketing health care costs, the families Marty is serving are receiving eye care at a cost of 40 percent less than what is being charged by other providers.

Marty may be best known for his work as the International Vice President of the Communications Workers of America and as Vice President of the Ohio AFL-CIO. Marty was -- and continues to be -- a vigorous leader in the labor movement in Ohio and Ohio workers have benefitted greatly from his commitment.

Marty continues to be engaged in the community action efforts of the United Labor Agency. As Vice President of this organization, Marty played a leading role in initiating a wide range of social programs. Under Marty's leadership, the ULA has been engaged in rehabilitating alcoholics; counseling the unemployed; providing job training for youths and displaced adults; providing housing for senior citizens; preventing plant closings and providing medical services to the poor.

In his efforts to help the less fortunate, Marty has shown a real commitment to minorities in our society. He served on the Minority Economic Development Committee of the Federal Reserve Bank's Round Table. And Marty has been active in fund raising for the United Negro College fund and for private and parochial schools in the inner cities which provide special education for children of culturally deprived families.

I also want to make special mention of Marty's military service. Marty is a decorated World War II veteran. He fought in North Africa, Sicily, Southern France, Germany and Czechoslovakia, receiving seven Battle Stars for his combat duty.

It is difficult to convey in a letter all that I would like to say about Marty Hughes. He has given so much for his country, and is definitely not the kind of individual who would knowingly violate the law. I feel that Marty is most deserving of a Presidential pardon and urge your favorable consideration of his request. Marty's continued suffering under the burden of his convictions does not serve anyone well.

Your reflection upon this matter is greatly appreciated.

Best regards.

Sincerely,

Best regards — John Glenn
John Glenn
United States Senator

cc: Margaret C. Love, Pardon Attorney



GEORGE V. VOINOVICH
GOVERNOR

STATE OF OHIO
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
COLUMBUS 43266-0601

January 5, 1993

The Honorable George Bush
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

I understand you have received a request from Martin J. Hughes to pardon his Federal convictions. He was found guilty in 1987 of ten counts of Falsifying Union Records and Aiding and Abetting, in violation of 29 U.S.C. §439(C) and 18 U.S.C. §2, and two counts of Assisting in the Filing of False Income Tax Returns, in violation of 27 U.S.C. §7204 and §7206. These convictions were the result of technical record keeping violations stemming from campaign contributions being made to various political candidates. He fully complied with Ohio law with regard to his record keeping procedures.

I have known Marty for a number of years since I was the Mayor of Cleveland and before. He has been very active in the Labor Union and at one time had been the President of the Cleveland AFL-CIO Federation of Labor, a member of the AFL-CIO Executive Board and the International Vice-President of Communication Workers of America District 4. I would greatly appreciate any consideration you could give to Marty's application for Pardon.

Your timely response in this matter would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

George
George V. Voinovich

GVV/kk

~~cc: Martin J. Hughes~~

Marty is a very decent family man who has not only contributed to our country as a labor leader but also as a great civic leader.

This conviction has almost consumed him. I really feel for him. If I could pardon him I would. But what he did does not violate Ohio law. Mr. Pico is the one who let the weight of the law