

STATE OF ARKANSAS
Office Of the Governor
Litter Rock

Orval E. Faubus
Governor

March 7, 1962

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Y
Governor Price Daniel
State Capitol
Austin, Texas

Dear Governor Daniel:

This is a belated reply to your letter in reference to John Y. Harding. I have received a number of requests for executive clemency, and am very sympathetic to Mrs. Harding.

The board considered this case last month, at which time it was felt that since the prisoner had then served only about 20 days of his sentence, it was not deemed feasible to recommend executive clemency.

However, I have told the parties who have written in Mr. Harding's behalf that if favorable recommendations can be secured from the sentencing officials, then perhaps by late summer or early fall the board will look with favor upon recommending clemency in this case. It is my understanding that this will in all likelihood be done in time for Mr. Harding to take up his school duties for the next term.

I appreciate your interest in Mr. Harding's case, and assure you of my desire to be helpful whenever possible and feasible.

With kindest personal regards,

Most sincerely,

Orval E. Faubus
Governor

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STATE OF ARKANSAS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
LITTLE ROCKORVAL L. FAUBUS
Governor

March 13, 1962

Mr. John Goldsum
Administrative Assistant
Governor's Office
Austin, Texas

Dear John:

This will acknowledge our telephone conversation of last week and your request concerning John Y. Harding W/M 53593, who is currently serving a three year sentence for embezzlement in the Arkansas State Penitentiary.

I have discussed this matter with Mr. W. E. Ball, Director of the Board of Pardons and Paroles and he will request that the Board hear these people from Potts, Texas who desire to appear in his behalf; however, since Harding has only been in the Penitentiary since January 16, 1962, I feel it only fair to warn you that the trip and expenses will probably be completely unnecessary. Also, there is the matter of the county officials, who do not feel it justified to recommend clemency. This case was taken to the Arkansas Supreme Court which upheld the lower courts decision. I hope this makes our situation clear, as I do not feel there is any hope or chance for clemency of any type at this time.....

Any time I can be of assistance in any way don't hesitate to call on me.

Sincerely,

s/ John Browning Jr.

John Browning, Jr.
Administrative Assistant

JB:ps

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
AUSTIN 11, TEXAS

Price Daniel

March 16, 1962

Governor

Hon. Dan Struve
State Representative
Campbellton, Texas

Dear Dan:

John Goldsum has told me of his telephone conversations with you in further regard to John Y. Harding, who is serving a three-year sentence in the Arkansas State Penitentiary.

I regret that I have not had an opportunity to meet with you and the people from Poteet about this case. As you understand, of course, I have been away from the office for a number of meetings and speaking engagements, and this letter is being dictated while I am en route in West Texas.

As evidenced by the attached letters, however, we have been doing all that we can to help on this case. You will note that the chances for release appear much better late this summer or in early fall than they do at the present time. In view of this, I frankly believe that it may do more harm than good to push the matter at this time, but I will be glad to work with you and your constituents on whatever you suggest.

I will be away from the office most of the time during the coming weeks, but if you desire to discuss the matter further, I would suggest that you talk to John Goldsum who is my Assistant in charge of clemency. As you probably know, too, I will be in Poteet on April 14 for the annual strawberry festival, and we may have a chance to discuss the matter at that time.

Kindest personal regards.

Sincerely yours,

PRICE DANIEL

PD:gs

Enclosures

Hon. Dan Struve

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March 16, 1962

Col. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas O. Beal
Star Route, Box 32A
Poteet, Texas

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