



BOB TAFT
GOVERNOR
STATE OF OHIO

October 6, 2005

Via Email Attachment and U.S. Mail

Mr. Thomas C. Hill, Esq.
Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP
2300 N Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037-1128

Re: John G. Spirko

Dear Mr. Hill:

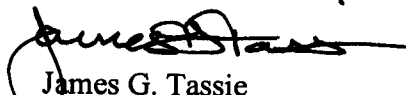
Governor Taft has asked me to respond on his behalf to your letter of September 29, 2005, in which you suggested that the Governor request directly from the United States Postal Inspection Service documentation regarding former inspector Paul Hartman.

The Governor understands that you would like to obtain this information prior to the October 12, 2005 Parole Board hearing. However, it is not appropriate for the Governor to make a formal request of the USPIS to obtain information on behalf of either party or that may be the subject of the pending proceedings in federal court.

The Governor will take all relevant information into consideration as he decides whether to grant Mr. Spirko's application for clemency. If the additional information you seek is not available to you before the October 12, 2005 Parole Board hearing, the Governor would expect that you would raise that issue before the Parole Board. At this time, however, it is premature to consider either asking the Parole Board to reschedule its hearing or granting an additional reprieve to Mr. Spirko.

Please feel free to contact me at any time if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,


James G. Tassie
Deputy Chief Legal Counsel

cc: Governor Bob Taft
Gary Croft (by email attachment)
Timothy D. Prichard, Esq. (by email attachment)