



Department of Justice

THOMAS J. MILLER
ATTORNEY GENERAL

August 19, 1988

ADDRESS REPLY TO:
AREA PROSECUTIONS DIVISION
HOOVER BUILDING
DES MOINES, IOWA 50319
TELEPHONE: 515-281-3648

Sidney S. Louis
4211 Calmont Ave.
Fort Worth, Texas 76107

Dear Mr. Louis:

Your recent letter to Attorney General Tom Miller has been referred to the undersigned as head of the Criminal Prosecution Division of this office.

First, by way of explanation, we must advise you that this office does not have investigative resources as we are not empowered under the Iowa law to initiate criminal investigations. Furthermore, the criminal division of this office works only on referral from locally elected county attorneys in this state. As a general rule, we do not receive cases until after they have been completely investigated and formal charges are either filed or ready to be filed; and, as noted, we can only become involved if the local county attorney specifically empowers us to assist his or her office in a particular prosecution.

As a consequence of the above, I am forwarding the information you sent to this office to Mr. Steven J. Oeth, the Boone County Attorney for his review. Mr. Oeth is a seasoned prosecutor and all criminally related investigations and prosecutions are exclusively under his jurisdiction.

I should point out that the likelihood of establishing new investigative leads--some nine years after your sister's disappearance--is relatively small. It also appears, from the limited materials you directed to our office, that the Boone Police Department did follow-up on all of the information which was available at the time of the disappearance.

I am enclosing a copy of the cover letter under which I am forwarding the materials to Boone County Attorney Steven Oeth. This letter provides his mailing address and if you have additional information regarding your sister's disappearance I would recommend strongly that you contact Mr. Oeth directly. If you wish to reach him by telephone his number is (515) 432-1496.

Mr. Sidney S. Louis
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We appreciate the opportunity to have been of what limited service we could be in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Harold Young", written in dark ink.

HAROLD YOUNG
Assistant Attorney General
Area Prosecutions Division

HY/cal
Enclosure