[10/20/78-Not Submitted] [CF, O/A 548]

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 20, 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: LOUIS MARTIN

Editor John Seingenthaler of the Nashville Tennessean, an old friend, and Representative Harold Ford of Memphis have called about the vacancy on the TVA Board. Both stressed the desirability of having a qualified Black on the Board. Seigenthaler does not have a candidate but Representative Harold Ford is pushing for Frank Brown, a Certified Public Accountant with the firm of Banks, Finley, Thomas and White. Resume is attached. TVA serves a large Black population and the appointment of a Black member to the Board would bring, in our view, national political acclaim.

Attachment

FRANK J. BANKS, CPA



Mr. Banks, 36 years old, born in Memphis, Tennessee, has had fourteen (14) years of experience in the accounting profession. He served two (2) years as a Federal auditor with the Department of Housing and Urban Development, in Chicago, Illinois where he obtained valuable experience in auditing Federal programs, and governmental regulations as they relate to finance and compliance. Many of the programs were grants to city and state governments.

He served three (3) years as the Head of the Accounting Department of the War on Poverty Committee of Memphis and Shelby County, where he obtained experience in handling grant and Federal contract funds in excess of two million dollars.

Mr. Banks began his work in public accounting with the International Firm of Ernst & Ernst, Certified Public Accountants in Memphis, Tennessee in 1969, where he served two (2) years as an in-charge accountant. At Ernst & Ernst, Mr. Banks performed audits of wholesale, retail, manufacturing and service-type businesses, as well as hospitals, government and non-profit institutions.

In 1971, he became a manager-in-charge of auditing with Otha L. Brandon, CPA Firm in Memphis, Tennessee where his duties consisted of monitoring the audit functions, and assisting in the administration of the firm.

With a burning desire to build a national CPA firm, Mr. Banks, along with two other certified public accountants, James C. White and Mack Finley, Jr., founded the CPA Firm of Banks, Finley, Thomas & White, May 26, 1973. The firm has become one of the largest Black CPA firms in the United States, with offices in Atlanta, Birmingham, Jackson and Memphis. The firm employs over sixty people consisting of ten CPAs, and grosses over a million dollars. See January, 1978 issue of "Black Enterprise". The firm now serves as a role model for other hardworking and creative Blacks to follow. Frank is Chairman of the Board and resident partner over the Memphis Office.

Mr. Banks spearheaded the firm's action in establishing the Banks, Finley, White & Co. Foundation. The purpose of the foundation will be to promote and assist young Blacks in entering the accounting profession.

Frank is incorporator and founder of South Memphis Development Corporation, an economic development corporation formed to promote economic development among minorities in the Memphis area.

Mr. Banks was named one of the Ten Outstanding Young Men of America for 1977 by the United States Jaycees, among other to receive this award in past years were Howard Hughes, John F. Kennedy and Ralph Nader.

COMMUNITY AFFILIATIONS

Board Member/Southern Cooperative Development Fund
Board Member/Memphis Area Chamber of Commerce
Board Member/Gilliam Communications (Radion Station WLOK)
Board Member/Memphis Light, Gas & Water (Pension Board)
Member/President's Round Table (LeMoyne-Owen College)
Board Member and Chairman/South Memphis Development Foundation
Board Member and Vice President/Muscular Dystrophy Association, Inc.
Board Member and Treasurer/Industrial Development Board

Frank is married to the former Brenda Tervalon of New Orleans, and is the father of two daughters, Tracey (11) and Danese (7).

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

10/20/78

Hugh:

There is general agreement that the President does not need to deal with this issue.

Gene Eidenburg in Jack Watson's office is taking care of this situation.

You may be able to give him some assistance.

Rick Hutcheson

ID 7853,17

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

DATE: 13 OCT 78

FOR ACTION: STU EIZENSTAT HAMILTON JORDAN

JACK WATSON — Jane Eidenberg will notify us when problem is resolved

INFO ONLY: THE VICE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: MARSHALL MEMO RE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR SPACE ACQUISITION PROBLEMS

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+ RESPONSE DUE TO RICK HUTCHESON STAFF SECRETARY (456-7052) +

+ BY: 1200 PM MONDAY 16 OCT 78 +

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CAN'T THIS PROBLEM BE HANDLED WITHOUT BOTHERING THE PRESIDENT?

ACTION REQUESTED:

STAFF RESPONSE: ( ) I CONCUR. ( ) NO COMMENT. ( ) HOLD.

PLEASE NOTE OTHER COMMENTS BELOW:

ID 785317

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

DATE: 13 OCT 78

FOR ACTION: STU EIZENSTAT HAMILTON JORDAN

JACK WATSON – Jane Fielding will notify us when problem is resolved

INFO ONLY: THE VICE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: MARSHALL MEMO RE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR SPACE ACQUISITION PROBLEMS

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STAFF RESPONSE: ( ) I CONCUR. ( ) NO COMMENT. ( ) HOLD.

PLEASE NOTE OTHER COMMENTS BELOW:

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON

OCT 12 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

FROM: SECRETARY OF LABOR for

SUBJECT: Department of Labor Space Acquisition Problems

The purpose of this memorandum is to inform you of a serious problem involving the acquisition of space which is about to have an adverse impact on several new program initiatives in the Department of Labor.

In April, after a 9-month effort to convince GSA that the Department of Labor was in dire need of additional Washington, D. C. office space, the Department was authorized 35,000 square feet. I have personally spoken to Jay Solomon about our pressing needs, but GSA has not yet been able to secure this additional space. In the meantime, the Department's space needs both in Washington, D. C. and the field have been increased by legislative mandates and your EEO reorganization program.

Federal Contract Compliance Program

As part of your EEO reorganization program, Federal Contract Compliance Programs are to be consolidated from 11 agenices into the Department of Labor on October 8. Approximately 1,500 people from other agencies (primarily minority and female) will be merged into the Department on October 8 and 71 new field offices will be established.

Almost no permanent space has been made available to accommodate the reorganization. Some temporary space has been made available in field locations but it is inadequate and no space has been made available to accommodate the consolidated national office staff. GSA has suggested that we continue to house employees in the agencies from which they are to be transferred, but this does not permit us to implement an effective, consolidated program intended by your reorganization proposal. Supervision of staff isolated in 11 agencies will be difficult, the public will be confused and most importantly, the implementation of your reorganization will be postponed for all practical purposes.

Black Lung Program

We have been working with GSA since March to establish field offices mandated by the Black Lung Reform Act. To date, we have received some temporary space for our major offices but it is inadequate to accommodate the staff authorized for the program. We are in the strange position of not being able to hire people because of the unavailability of space. Our hiring has lagged 50 percent behind the level planned with the result that the Department is unable to process the claims filed as quickly as anticipated.

Since May the Department has received in Washington, D. C. over 30,000 claims, filed under a new provision of the Act. We anticipate receiving a total of 85,000 by December. The Department did not have enough Washington, D. C. office space for this program in March and as a result of the expanded program, there is simply no place to adequately house the necessary staff to process claims. This inability contributes to a backlog of cases, similar to what the Department experienced in the Federal Employees' Compensation Act program. Unless we can solve the space problem quickly, this program will develop the same public and political criticism directed toward the FECA program because of its large claim backlogs and inadequate service to clients.

Recommended Course of Action

The Department has done everything possible to work with GSA on our space problems. We gave them informal advance information on our requirements, we developed a list of available space in Washington, D. C. and we indicated we would take space in more than one location. We have had numerous meetings with GSA on this issue. GSA has been sympathetic, but unable to meet our requirements.

Since the lack of space is adversely affecting these key programs, I request that you urge GSA to provide space quickly for us or direct that they delegate authority to the Department to acquire space and make any necessary renovations.