

DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE  
2300 CENTRE SQUARE WEST  
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19102

EDWARD G. RENDELL  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

January 5, 1981

DIRECT DIAL (215) MU 6-

Honorable Leon Katz  
Judge, Court of Common Pleas  
Trial Division, Philadelphia County  
111 One East Penn Square  
Philadelphia, Pa. 19107

Re: Emmanuel Claitt

Dear Judge Katz:

This letter is written pursuant to your request regarding Mr. Claitt's cooperation with the Commonwealth.

Mr. Claitt's cooperation began in January, 1980, with discussions regarding the homicide investigation of Tae Bong Cho, a Korean grocer killed allegedly by Robert "Sugar Bear" Lark. Later, in May of 1980, Mr. Claitt was interviewed, while incarcerated in the Detention Center, about his knowledge concerning the death of his business partner and close friend, Samuel "Omar" Goodwin.

During that interview, Mr. Claitt mentioned that he believed George Rose killed "Omar" and that Rose had also killed Alfred Clark in April of 1979. Mr. Claitt was subsequently brought to the Homicide Division of the Police Department to give a formal statement about the death of Alfred Clark. This statement led to the arrest of George Rose. Mr. Claitt gave additional statements regarding the activities of the drug traffickers in North Philadelphia. Part of this information led to the arrest of William Franklin for a murder which occurred in 1976, and warrants being issued for George "Major" Tillery for the same offense. Warrants were also issued for Tillery for a series of bombings in late 1979 and early 1980. Rose was also implicated and was arrested for these bombings. Tillery is presently a fugitive.

Mr. Claitt gave police background information regarding other homicides under investigation as well as the drug traffic in Philadelphia. Information was supplied by Mr. Claitt in the investigation of the death of Philadelphia Police Officer Ernest Davis in July 1980.

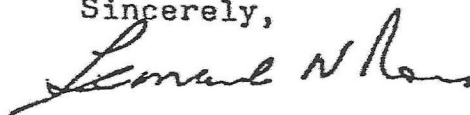
Honorable Leon Katz  
Page 2  
January 5, 1981

Re: Emmanuel Claitt

Mr. Claitt testified at the preliminary hearings and trials of George Rose and William Franklin in the homicide charges. He testified at the preliminary hearings of George Rose and a co-defendant, James Brand, in the bombings. These matters are still pending. He has agreed to testify against Tillery, once he is captured.

I hope this letter answers some of the questions that the Court had. I will be present at sentencing on February 3, 1981, and of course, if the Court has any additional questions, I am available at your convenience.

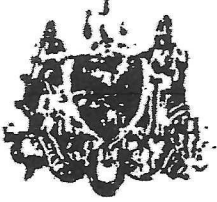
Sincerely,



LEONARD N. ROSS  
Assistant District Attorney  
Homicide Unit

LNR:cm

cc: Myron H. Deutsch, Esquire



DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE  
1300 CHESTNUT STREET  
PHILADELPHIA PENNSYLVANIA 19107

EDWARD G. RENDELL  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

January 31, 1964

Mr. Herman Tartler  
Secretary, Pennsylvania Board  
of Probation and Parole  
P.O. Box 1681  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

Re: Emmanuel Claitt, Police No. 439759  
Birth Date 2-7-51

Dear Mr. Tartler:

The above-captioned individual is presently on Pennsylvania State Parole as a result of a 1960 conviction in Philadelphia Common Pleas Court (C.F. 80-08-1067). He is awaiting trial here on charges of robbery and related offenses (C.P. 33-05-3764-3768) and remains in custody because of a state parole detainer.

Mr. Claitt is our only eyewitness in the very serious homicide case of Commonwealth v. Major Tillery. This case cannot be successfully prosecuted without his testimony.

Although Claitt has already testified, without any promises whatsoever, against a co-defendant in the same case, he now, through counsel, seeks his release on bail as a condition of further cooperation. He does not seek any promises or consideration with respect to his open charges.

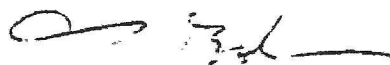
In view of the fact that this witness subjects himself to considerable risk in testifying against Tillery, we do not believe his request is unreasonable. We ask, therefore, that the parole board remove his detainer. With this done, we will

take necessary steps to have him released on bail and  
will ensure that he is present for all further hearings  
before the board.

The preliminary hearing in the Tillery Case is listed  
for February 9, 1984. Mr. Claitt will not be available as  
a Commonwealth witness on that date unless the above  
arrangements have been completed. We therefore ask that  
the matter be expedited.

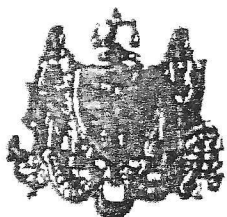
Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Very truly yours,



ARNOLD GORDON  
Chief, Homicide Unit

/ktm



February 28, 1984

Honorable John J. Chiovero  
105 One East Penn Square Building  
Juniper and Market Streets  
Philadelphia, Pa. 19107

Re: Commonwealth v. Emanuel Claitt  
C.P. 8305-3764 to 3768

Dear Judge Chiovero:

The defendant in the above matter, which has been assigned to you for trial, is an essential Commonwealth witness in various cases involving one George Major Tillery. Mr. Claitt is presently in custody in lieu of \$2000.00 bail. Our office requests that he be permitted to sign his own bond in that amount, for the reasons that follow.

---

~~George Major Tillery is charged with murder and~~  
aggravated assault as to an incident of October 22, 1976. He is also charged with three separate fire bombings of occupied residences. In the opinion of our office, Tillery is a major figure in organized crime in the City of Philadelphia. The testimony of Emanuel Claitt is essential to the successful prosecution of all of these cases against Tillery. Claitt has not requested nor has this office promised him any consideration with respect to the disposition of the open matter before you. He has, however, through counsel, requested his release on bail as a condition to his testifying against Tillery.

Since Major Tillery presents an enormously greater threat to the community than does Emanuel Claitt, we believe the Court will further the interests of justice by granting our request.

Very truly yours,

*Edward G. Rendell*  
EDWARD G. RENDELL  
District Attorney

EGR:kml

October 28, 1984

Herbert Tartler, Board Secretary  
PA. Board of Probation and Parole  
P.O. Box 1661  
3102 North Front Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17120

RE: EMANUEL CLAITT

Dear Mr. Tartler:

Emanuel Claitt is scheduled to have a hearing, I believe on November 2, 1984, concerning his violation of parole.

Mr. Claitt has appeared for the Commonwealth as a witness in approximately four homicide trials. He is scheduled to appear for the Commonwealth in the case of Commonwealth v. Major Tillery.

Mr. Claitt is obviously in danger anywhere in the Pennsylvania Prison System. In fact, to place him in jail would most surely place him in jeopardy.

Although we are aware that Mr. Claitt has violated his parole on numerous occasions, it is our opinion that Mr. Claitt's violations are clearly outweighed by the potential danger to his person. Therefore, we request that you continue Mr. Claitt's parole.

Sincerely yours,

JAC:eda  
JEFFREY A. BRODWIN  
Assistant District Attorney  
Assistant Chief, Homicide Unit

JAC:eda

cc: Fred. W. Jacobs, Chairman

P.P.S. If there are any questions concerning this request please feel free to contact me at any time at (717) 875-6166.