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Collection/Office of Origin: Speechwriting, White House Office of
Series: Speech File Draft Files
Subseries: Chron File, 1989-1993

OA/ID Number: 13620
Folder ID Number: 13620-004

Folder Title:
Oval [Office] Address Re: Civil Disorder in Los Angeles 5/1/92 [OA 6101]

Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
G	26	18	1	7

Skinner
Kristof
Findlay

(DDDMAF)
May 1, 1992
Draft ~~Three~~
LA

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS ON CIVIL DISORDER IN LOS ANGELES
MAY 1, 1992
9:00 PM

NO
Tonight I want to talk to you about violence in our cities,
and justice for our citizens. ~~Two big issues that have collided
on the streets of Los Angeles.~~

First, an update on where matters stand in Los Angeles.
Fifteen minutes ago I talked to California's Governor Pete Wilson
and Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley. They told me that last night
was better than the night before -- today calmer than yesterday --
but there were still incidents of random terror and lawlessness
this afternoon.

9
In the wake of the first night's violence, I spoke directly
to both Governor Wilson and Mayor Bradley -- to assess the
situation, and to offer assistance.

There are two very different issues at hand. One is the
urgent need to restore order. What followed Wednesday's jury
verdict in the Rodney King case was a tragic series of events for
the city of Los Angeles: nearly 4,000 fires, staggering property
damage, hundreds of injuries, and the senseless deaths of over
thirty people.

To restore order, right now, there are 3000 National
Guardsmen on duty in the City of Los Angeles. Another 2200 stand
ready to provide immediate support.

Today, to supplement this effort, I've taken several additional actions. First, I have ordered the Justice Department to dispatch 1000 Federal riot-trained law enforcement officials to help restore order in Los Angeles -- beginning tonight. These officials include FBI SWAT teams, special riot control units of the U.S. Marshals Service, the Border Patrol, and other federal law enforcement agencies.

Second, another 1000 Federal Law Enforcement officials are on stand by alert should they be needed.

Third, I have directed 3000 members of the 7th Infantry, and 1500 Marines to stand by at El Toro Air Station, California, available for duty this evening. And in the event these troops are ~~sent in~~, I am prepared to Federalize the National Guard.

What we saw last night and the night before in Los Angeles is not about civil rights. It is not about the great cause of equality that all Americans must uphold. It is not a message of protest. It is now the brutality of a mob -- pure and simple.

Let me assure you, I will use whatever force is necessary to restore order. What is going on in L.A. must and will stop. As your President, I guarantee you this violence will end.

Now let us talk about the beating of Rodney King. Because, beyond the urgent need to restore order is the second issue: the question of justice -- whether ~~the actions of the police violated~~ Rodney King's federal civil rights. *were violated.*

What you saw and what I saw on the TV video was revolting. I felt anger. I felt pain. I thought: How can I explain this

of
the
1st
Marine
Division



Many of our
citizens were deeply
hurt.

3

no

to my grandchildren? ~~Civil rights leaders and just plain~~
~~citizens fearful of -- and sometimes victimized by police~~
~~brutality were deeply hurt.~~ I know good and decent policemen who
were equally appalled.

I spoke this morning to many leaders of the civil rights
community. They saw the video, as we all did. For fourteen
months, they waited. Patiently. Hopefully. They waited for the
system to work. When the verdict came in, they felt betrayed.

Viewed from outside the trial, it was hard to understand how
the verdict could possibly square with the video. Those civil
rights leaders with whom I met were stunned. So was I. So was
Barbara. So were my kids.

But the verdict Wednesday was not the end of the process.
The Department of Justice had started its own investigation
immediately after the Rodney King incident and was monitoring the
state investigation and trial. So let me tell you what actions
we are taking on the federal level to ensure that justice is
served. Within one hour of the verdict, I directed the Justice
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investigation into the case.

Next, on Thursday, five federal prosecutors were on their
way to Los Angeles. Our Justice Department has consistently
demonstrated its ability to investigate fully a matter like this.
Since 1988 the Justice Department has successfully prosecuted
over 100 law enforcement officials for excessive violence. I'm

confident that in this case, the Department of Justice will act as it should.

Federal grand jury action is underway today in Los Angeles. Subpoenas have been issued. Evidence is being reviewed.

The federal effort in this case will be swift -- and it will be fair. It will not be driven by mob violence, but by respect for due process and the rule of law.

We owe it to all Americans who put their faith in the law to see that justice is served. But as we move forward on this or any other case, we must remember the fundamental tenet of our legal system: every American, whether accused, or accuser, is entitled to protection of his or her rights.

In this highly controversial court case a verdict was handed down by a California jury. To Americans of all races who were shocked by the verdict, let me say this: you must understand that our system of justice provides for the peaceful, orderly means of addressing this frustration. We must respect the process of law whether or not we agree with the outcome. There is a difference between frustration with the law and direct assaults upon our legal system.

In a civilized society, there can be no excuse -- no excuse -- for the murder, arson, theft, and vandalism that have terrorized the law-abiding citizens of Los Angeles.

The wanton destruction of life and property is not a legitimate expression of outrage with injustice -- it is itself

injustice. And no rationalization, no matter how heart-felt, no matter how eloquent, can make it otherwise.

Television has become a medium that often brings us together. But its vivid display of Rodney King's beating shocked us. And the America it has shown us on our screens these last 48 hours has appalled us. None of this is what we wish to think of as American. It is as if we were looking in a mirror that distorted our better selves and turned us ugly. We cannot let that happen. We cannot do that to ourselves.

We have seen images in the last 48 hours that we will never forget. Some were horrifying almost beyond belief. But there were other acts -- small, but significant acts in all this ugliness that give us hope: I'm one who respects our police. ~~They keep the peace.~~ They face danger every day. They help kids. They don't make a lot of money -- but they care about their communities and their country. Thousands of police officers are risking their lives right now on the streets of L.A. and they deserve our support.

Then there are the people who have spent each night not in the streets, but in the churches of east Los Angeles -- praying that man's gentler instincts be revealed in the hearts of people driven by hate. Finally, there were the citizens who showed great personal responsibility -- who ignored the mob -- who at great personal danger, helped the victims of violence -- regardless of race.

Acts by
citizens,
and
acts by
policemen.

and
firefighters
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and
fire
fighters

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Among the many stories I've seen and heard about these past few days, one sticks in my mind. The story of one savagely beaten white truck driver -- alive tonight because four strangers, four black strangers, came to his aid. Two were men who had been watching television and saw the beating as it was happening, and came out into the street to help. Another was a woman on her way home from work -- the fourth, a young man whose name we may never know. The injured driver was able to get behind the wheel of his truck and tried to drive away. But his eyes were swollen shut. The woman asked him if he could see. He answered no. She said, "Well, then I will be your eyes."

Together, those four people braved the mob and drove that truck driver to the hospital. He is alive today -- only because they stepped in to help.

It is for every one of them that we must rebuild the community of Los Angeles -- for these four people and the others like them who in the midst of this nightmare acted with simple human decency.

We must understand that no one in Los Angeles or any other city has rendered a verdict on America. If we are to remain the most vibrant and hopeful nation on earth we must allow our diversity to bring us together, not drive us apart. This must be the rallying cry of good and decent people.

For their sake, for all our sakes: We must build a future where in every city across this country, empty rage gives way to hope -- where poverty and despair give way to opportunity. Even

after peace is restored to Los Angeles, we must then turn again to the underlying causes of such tragic events. ~~Racism is on the rise in our country. It must be stopped.~~ We must keep on working to create a climate of understanding and tolerance -- a climate that refuses to accept racism, bigotry, anti-semitism, and hate of any kind, anytime, anywhere.

Tonight, I ask all Americans to lend their hearts, their voices, and their prayers to the healing of hatred. As President I took an oath to preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution -- an oath that requires every President to establish justice and insure domestic tranquility. That duty is foremost in my mind tonight.

Let me say to the people saddened by the spectacle of the past few days -- to the good people of Los Angeles, caught at the center of this senseless suffering: The violence will end. Justice will be served. Hope will return.

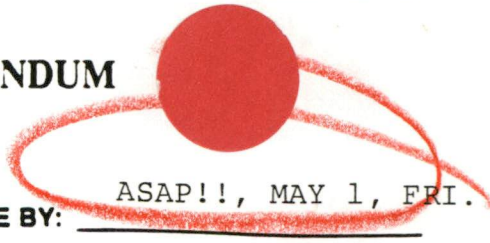
Thank you, and God bless the United States of America.

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CLOSE HOLD

Document No. _____

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM



ASAP!!, MAY 1, FRI.

DATE: 5/1/92 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY:

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS ON CIVIL DISORDER IN LOS ANGELES

MAY 1, 1992

SUBJECT: 9:00PM

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HORNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SKINNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCBRIDE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X MOORE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X PETERSMEYER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	X PORTER <i>on the way</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X ROGICH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CALIO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X ROLLINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
X DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SMITH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	YEUTTER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	FINDLAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	KAUFMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
			MCGROARTY		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please provide comments on the attached directly to David Demarest, 2ndF1, WW, x7620, with a copy to this office ASAP, TODAY, FRIDAY, MAY 1. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

CLOSE HOLD

PHILLIP D. BRADY
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 2702

(DDDMF)
May 1, 1992
Draft One
LA

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS ON CIVIL DISORDER IN LOS ANGELES
MAY 1, 1992
9:00 PM

Two days ago, in a highly publicized and controversial court case, a verdict was handed down by a duly appointed jury. What followed in the city of Los Angeles was a tragic series of events including the 1,500 fires, staggering property damage, thousands of arrests and injuries, and the senseless deaths of over thirty people.

A random truck driver was pulled out of his cab in broad daylight. He was punched, kicked -- beaten to the point of unconsciousness, robbed, and left to bleed in the street. The brutality we saw on our television sets was as sickening as it was terrifying.

What is going on now in Los Angeles is not about civil rights. It is not about the great cause of equality that all Americans must uphold. It is not a message of protest. It is now the barbarism of a mob -- pure and simple.

And what is going on in L.A. must and will stop. Order will be restored to the streets of Los Angeles.

In a civilized society, there can be no excuse -- no excuse -- for the murder, arson, theft, and vandalism that have terrorized the law-abiding citizens of East Los Angeles.

The wanton destruction of life and property is not a legitimate expression of outrage with injustice -- it is itself

injustice. And no rationalization, no matter how heart-felt, no matter how eloquent, can make it otherwise.

To Americans of all races who were shocked by the verdict, let me say this. I spoke this morning to many leaders of the civil rights community. They saw the video of Rodney King being beaten by the police, as did the rest of us. For fourteen months, they waited. Patiently. Hopefully. They waited for the system to work. When the verdict came in, they felt betrayed.

We all felt it hard to comprehend how the verdict could possibly square with the video. Those civil rights leaders were stunned. So was I. So was Barbara. So were my kids. But those ashamed and angered by this outcome must understand: our system of justice provides for the peaceful, orderly means of addressing this frustration. There is a difference between frustration with the law and direct assaults upon it.

There are two very different issues at hand. One is the question of whether the civil rights of Rodney King were violated. So let me tell you what actions we are taking on the federal level to ensure that justice is served.

The verdict Wednesday was not the end of the process. Within one hour of the verdict, the Justice Department launched into high gear its own federal criminal investigation into the King case.

On Thursday Associate Attorney General Wayne Budd was immediately dispatched to Los Angeles with five federal civil rights division prosecutors. I have great confidence in our

Justice Department's ability to fully investigate a matter like this. In the last _____ the Justice Department has successfully prosecuted _____ of police violence cases.

The federal effort in this case will be swift -- and it will be fair. It will not be driven by mob violence, but by respect for due process and the rule of law.

We owe it to all Americans who put their faith in the law to see that justice is served. But as we move forward on this or any other case, we must remember the fundamental tenet of our legal system: every American is entitled to his ^{other} rights.

Beyond the question of civil rights, there is the urgent need to restore order. In the wake of the first night's violence, I spoke directly with California ^{Gov.} Pete Wilson, and Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley -- to assess the situation, and to offer assistance.

[[Examples of federal assistance to L.A. community]]

Right now, there are [1400] National Guardsmen on duty in the City of Los Angeles. Another [1200] stand ready to provide immediate support.

Today, to supplement this effort to restore order, I've taken several additional actions. First, I have ordered the Justice Department to dispatch [1000] Federal riot-trained law enforcement officials to help restore order in Los Angeles -- beginning tonight. These officials include SWAT teams and riot police, members of the Border Patrol and Bureau of Prisons and the U.S. Marshall Service.

Second, another [750] Federal Law Enforcement officials are on stand by alert should they be needed.

Third, I have authorized [4000] members of the 8th Infantry to stand by at Fort Ord, California. In the event they are needed, they are available for duty this evening as well. And in the event these troops are sent in, I am prepared to Federalize the National Guard.

We have seen images in the last 72 hours that we will never forget. Some were horrifying almost beyond belief. But there were other acts -- small, but significant acts in all this ugliness that give us hope: People who have spent each night not in the streets, but in the churches of east Los Angeles -- praying that man's gentler instincts be revealed in the hearts of people driven by hate. Citizens who ignored the mob -- who at great personal danger, helped the victims of violence -- regardless of race.

Among the many stories I've seen and heard about these past few days, one sticks in my mind. The story of one savagely beaten white truck driver -- alive tonight because four strangers, four black strangers, came to his aid. Two were men who had been watching the beating live on television, who came out into the street to help if they could. One was a woman on here way home from work -- the fourth, a young man whose name we may never know. Together, those four people braved the mob and drove that truck driver to the hospital. He is alive today -- only because they stepped in to help.

It is for every one of them that we must rebuild the community of Los Angeles -- for these four people and the others like them who in the midst of this nightmare acted with simple human decency.

For their sake, for all our sakes: We must build a future where in every city across this country, empty rage gives way to hope -- where poverty and despair give way to opportunity. We must keep on working to create a climate of understanding and tolerance. We must not tolerate racism, bigotry, anti-semitism, and hate of any kind, anytime, anywhere. Not over the dinner table. Not in the boardroom. Not in the playground. Nowhere.

This Sunday, I ask all Americans to lend their hearts and their voices to the healing of hatred -- to a new harmony between the races.

Tonight, let me say to the people sickened by the spectacle of the past few days -- to the good people of East Los Angeles, caught at the center of this senseless terror: The violence will end. Calm will return. Justice will be served.

Thank you, and God bless the United States of America.

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MASTER

(DDDMF)
May 1, 1992
Draft ~~Three~~ 4
LA

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS ON CIVIL DISORDER IN LOS ANGELES
MAY 1, 1992
9:00 PM

Tonight I want to talk to you about violence in our cities, and justice for our citizens. Two big issues that have collided on the streets of Los Angeles.

First, an update on where matters stand in Los Angeles. Fifteen minutes ago I talked to California's Governor Pete Wilson and Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley. They told me that last night was better than the night before -- today calmer than yesterday -- but there were still incidents of random terror and lawlessness this afternoon.

In the wake of the first night's violence, I spoke directly to both Governor Wilson and Mayor Bradley -- to assess the situation, and to offer assistance.

There are two very different issues at hand. One is the urgent need to restore order. What followed Wednesday's jury verdict in the Rodney King case was a tragic series of events for the city of Los Angeles: nearly 4,000 fires, staggering property damage, hundreds of injuries, and the senseless deaths of over thirty people.

To restore order, right now, there are 3000 National Guardsmen on duty in the City of Los Angeles. Another 2200 stand ready to provide immediate support.

Today, ^T to supplement this effort, I've taken several additional actions. First, ^{this morning} I have ordered the Justice Department to dispatch 1000 Federal riot-trained law enforcement officials to help restore order in Los Angeles -- beginning tonight. These officials include FBI SWAT teams, special riot control units of the U.S. Marshals Service, the Border Patrol, and other federal law enforcement agencies.

Second, another 1000 Federal Law Enforcement officials are on stand by alert should they be needed.

Third, ^{early today} I ~~have~~ directed 3000 members of the 7th Infantry, and 1500 Marines to stand by at El Toro Air Station, California, available for duty this evening. And in the event these troops are sent in, I am prepared to Federalize the National Guard.

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Let me assure you, I will use whatever force is necessary to restore order. What is going on in L.A. must and will stop. As your President, I guarantee you this violence will end.

Now let us talk about the beating of Rodney King. Because, beyond the urgent need to restore order is the second issue: the question of justice -- whether the actions of the police violated Rodney King's federal civil rights.

What you saw and what I saw on the TV video was revolting. I felt anger. I felt pain. I thought: How can I explain this

to my grandchildren? Civil rights leaders and just plain citizens fearful of -- and sometimes victimized by police brutality were deeply hurt. I know good and decent policemen who were equally appalled.

I spoke this morning to many leaders of the civil rights community. They saw the video, as we all did. For fourteen months, they waited. Patiently. Hopefully. They waited for the system to work. When the verdict came in, they felt betrayed.

Viewed from outside the trial, it was hard to understand how the verdict could possibly square with the video. Those civil rights leaders with whom I met were stunned. So was I. So was Barbara. So were my kids.

But the verdict Wednesday was not the end of the process. The Department of Justice had started its own investigation immediately after the Rodney King incident and was monitoring the state investigation and trial. So let me tell you what actions we are taking on the federal level to ensure that justice is served. Within one hour of the verdict, I directed the Justice Department to move into high gear on its own independent criminal investigation into the case.

Next, on Thursday, five federal prosecutors were on their way to Los Angeles. Our Justice Department has consistently demonstrated its ability to investigate fully a matter like this. Since 1988 the Justice Department has successfully prosecuted over 100 law enforcement officials for excessive violence. I'm

confident that in this case, the Department of Justice will act as it should.

Federal grand jury action is underway today in Los Angeles. Subpoenas ~~have been~~ ^{all being} issued. Evidence is being reviewed.

The federal effort in this case will be ~~swift~~ ^{expedient} -- and it will be fair. It will not be driven by mob violence, but by respect for due process and the rule of law.

We owe it to all Americans who put their faith in the law to see that justice is served. But as we move forward on this or any other case, we must remember the fundamental tenet of our legal system: every American, whether accused, or accuser, is entitled to protection of his or her rights.

In this highly controversial court case a verdict was handed down by a California jury. To Americans of all races who were shocked by the verdict, let me say this: you must understand that our system of justice provides for the peaceful, orderly means of addressing this frustration. We must respect the process of law whether or not we agree with the outcome. There is a difference between frustration with the law and direct assaults upon our legal system.

In a civilized society, there can be no excuse -- no excuse -- for the murder, arson, theft, and vandalism that have terrorized the law-abiding citizens of Los Angeles.

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We must understand that no one in Los Angeles or any other city has rendered a verdict on America. If we are to remain the most vibrant and hopeful nation on earth we must allow our diversity to bring us together, not drive us apart. This must be the rallying cry of good and decent people.

For their sake, for all our sakes: We must build a future where in every city across this country, empty rage gives way to hope -- where poverty and despair give way to opportunity. Even

after peace is restored to Los Angeles, we must then turn again to the underlying causes of such tragic events. Racism is on the rise in our country. It must be stopped. We must keep on working to create a climate of understanding and tolerance -- a climate that refuses to accept racism, bigotry, anti-semitism, and hate of any kind, anytime, anywhere.

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CLOSE HOLD

Document No. _____

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SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS ON CIVIL DISORDER IN LOS ANGELES
MAY 1, 1992
9:00PM

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HORNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SKINNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCBRIDE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MOORE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CALIO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROLLINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SMITH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	YEUTTER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GRAY <i>and 2896</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	FINDLAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	KAUFMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
			MCGROARTY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please provide comments on the attached directly to David Demarest, 2ndFl, WW, x7620, with a copy to this office ASAP, TODAY, FRIDAY, MAY 1. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

Outstanding
CLOSE HOLD

PHILLIP D. BRADY
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 2702

hn

(DDDMF)
May 1, 1992
Draft One
LA

02 MAY 1 P2:33

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MAY 1, 1992
9:00 PM

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On Thursday Associate Attorney General Wayne Budd was immediately dispatched to Los Angeles with five federal civil rights division prosecutors. I have great confidence in our

Justice Department's ability to fully investigate a matter like this. In the last _____ the Justice Department has successfully prosecuted _____ of police violence cases.

The federal effort in this case will be swift -- and it will be fair. It will not be driven by mob violence, but by respect for due process and the rule of law.

We owe it to all Americans who put their faith in the law to see that justice is served. But as we move forward on this or any other case, we must remember the fundamental tenet of our legal system: every American is entitled to his rights.

Beyond the question of civil rights, there is the urgent need to restore order. In the wake of the first night's violence, I spoke directly with California Pete Wilson, and Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley -- to assess the situation, and to offer assistance.

[[Examples of federal assistance to L.A. community]]

Right now, there are [1400] National Guardsmen on duty in the City of Los Angeles. Another [1200] stand ready to provide immediate support.

Today, to supplement this effort to restore order, I've taken several additional actions. First, I have ordered the Justice Department to dispatch [1000] Federal riot-trained law enforcement officials to help restore order in Los Angeles -- beginning tonight. These officials include SWAT teams and riot police, members of the Border Patrol and Bureau of Prisons and the U.S. Marshall Service.

Second, another [750] Federal Law Enforcement officials are on stand by alert should they be needed.

Third, I have authorized [4000] members of the 8th Infantry to stand by at Fort Ord, California. In the event they are needed, they are available for duty this evening as well. And in the event these troops are sent in, I am prepared to Federalize the National Guard.

We have seen images in the last 72 hours that we will never forget. Some were horrifying almost beyond belief. But there were other acts -- small, but significant acts in all this ugliness that give us hope: People who have spent each night not in the streets, but in the churches of east Los Angeles -- praying that man's gentler instincts be revealed in the hearts of people driven by hate. Citizens who ignored the mob -- who at great personal danger, helped the victims of violence -- regardless of race.

Among the many stories I've seen and heard about these past few days, one sticks in my mind. The story of one savagely beaten white truck driver -- alive tonight because four strangers, four black strangers, came to his aid. Two were men who had been watching the beating live on television, who came out into the street to help if they could. One was a woman on here way home from work -- the fourth, a young man whose name we may never know. Together, those four people braved the mob and drove that truck driver to the hospital. He is alive today -- only because they stepped in to help.

It is for every one of them that we must rebuild the community of Los Angeles -- for these four people and the others like them who in the midst of this nightmare acted with simple human decency.

For their sake, for all our sakes: We must build a future where in every city across this country, empty rage gives way to hope -- where poverty and despair give way to opportunity. We must keep on working to create a climate of understanding and tolerance. We must not tolerate racism, bigotry, anti-semitism, and hate of any kind, anytime, anywhere. Not over the dinner table. Not in the boardroom. Not in the playground. Nowhere.

This Sunday, I ask all Americans to lend their hearts and their voices to the healing of hatred -- to a new harmony between the races.

Tonight, let me say to the people sickened by the spectacle of the past few days -- to the good people of East Los Angeles, caught at the center of this senseless terror: The violence will end. Calm will return. Justice will be served.

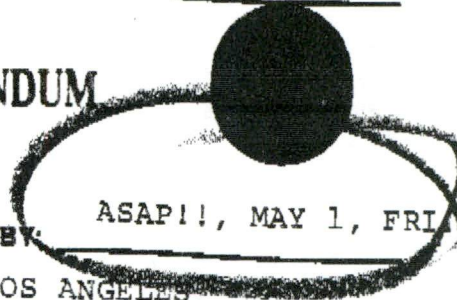
Thank you, and God bless the United States of America.

#

CLOSE HOLD

Document No. _____

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM



ASAP!!!, MAY 1, FRI

DATE: 5/1/92 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: _____
SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS ON CIVIL DISORDER IN LOS ANGELES
MAY 1, 1992
9:00PM

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HORNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SKINNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCBRIDE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MOORE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	YEUTTER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	KAUFMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
			MCGROARTY		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please provide comments on the attached directly to David Demarest, 2ndF1, WW, x7620, with a copy to this office ASAP, TODAY, FRIDAY, MAY 1. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

see comments - Thanks.
PK

(OCA comments)

CLOSE HOLD

Paul Fortenta
05/01

PHILLIP D. BRADY
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 2702

General Comment:
POTUS should call on the Civil Rights leaders to join him in condemning the wanton lawlessness.

(OCA)

(DDDMAF)
May 1, 1992
Draft One
LA

12 MAY 1 P2:33

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS ON CIVIL DISORDER IN LOS ANGELES
MAY 1, 1992
9:00 PM

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A random truck driver was pulled out of his cab in broad daylight. He was punched, kicked -- beaten to the point of unconsciousness, robbed, and left to bleed in the street. The brutality we saw on our television sets was as sickening as it was terrifying.

(OCA)

Excellent. Don't change a word.

What is going on now in Los Angeles is not about civil rights. It is not about the great cause of equality that all Americans must uphold. It is not a message of protest. It is now the barbarism of a mob -- pure and simple.

And what is going on in L.A. must and will stop. Order will be restored to the streets of Los Angeles.

In a civilized society, there can be no excuse -- no excuse -- for the murder, arson, theft, and vandalism that have terrorized the law-abiding citizens of ~~East~~ Los Angeles.

(OCA)

not just East!

The wanton destruction of life and property is not a legitimate expression of outrage with injustice -- it is itself

2

injustice. And no rationalization, no matter how heart-felt, no matter how eloquent, can make it otherwise.

To Americans of all races who were shocked by the verdict, let me say this. I spoke this morning to many leaders of the civil rights community. They saw the video of Rodney King being beaten by the police, as did the rest of us. For fourteen months, they waited. Patiently. Hopefully. They waited for the system to work. When the verdict came in, they felt betrayed.

We all felt it hard to comprehend how the verdict could possibly square with the video. Those civil rights leaders were stunned. So was I. So was Barbara. So were my kids. But those ashamed and angered by this outcome must understand: our system of justice provides for the peaceful, orderly means of addressing this frustration. There is a difference between frustration with the law and direct assaults upon it.

There are two very different issues at hand. One is the question of whether the civil rights of ^{a U.S. citizen} ~~Rodney King~~ were violated. So let me tell you what actions we are taking on the federal level to ensure that justice is served. (OCA)

The verdict Wednesday was not the end of the process. Within one hour of the verdict, the Justice Department ^{resumed} ~~launched~~ into high gear its own federal criminal investigation into the King case ^{having ~~resumed~~ deferred to the state as is the normal practice.} (OCA)

On Thursday Associate Attorney General Wayne Budd was immediately dispatched to Los Angeles with five federal civil rights division prosecutors. I have great confidence in our

Justice Department's ability to fully investigate a matter like this. *Since Oct 88,* the Justice Department has *charged* successfully prosecuted *over 120 l.e. officers w/ excessive violence.* of police violence cases. *(OCA)*

The federal effort in this case will be swift -- and it will be fair. It will not be driven by mob violence, but by respect for due process and the rule of law. *or by politics*

We owe it to all Americans who put their faith in the law to see that justice is served. But as we move forward on this or any other case, we must remember the fundamental tenet of our legal system: every American is entitled to his rights. *The rights of thousands have now been violated.* *(OCA)*

Beyond the question of civil rights, there is the urgent need to restore order. In the wake of the first night's violence, I spoke directly with California *Governor* Pete Wilson, and Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley -- to assess the situation, and to offer assistance. *Is it worth mentioning that SBA Administrator Saito toured the damaged and met with Mayor Bradley today? [SBA loans are only available if Federal disaster is declared].* *(OCA)*

Right now, there are [1400] National Guardsmen on duty in the City of Los Angeles. Another [1200] stand ready to provide immediate support. *see SBA attachments*

Today, to supplement this effort to restore order, I've taken several additional actions. First, I have ordered the Justice Department to dispatch [1000] Federal riot-trained law enforcement officials to help restore order in Los Angeles -- beginning tonight. These officials include *FBI* SWAT teams and riot police, members of the Border Patrol and Bureau of Prisons and the U.S. Marshall Service. *and Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.* *(OCA)*

4

Second, another [750] Federal Law Enforcement officials are on stand by alert should they be needed.

Third, I have authorized [4000] members of the 8th Infantry to stand by at Fort Ord, California. In the event they are needed, they are available for duty this evening as well. And in the event these troops are sent in, I am prepared to Federalize the National Guard.

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For their sake, for all our sakes: We must build a future where in every city across this country, empty rage gives way to hope -- where poverty and despair give way to opportunity. We must keep on working to create a climate of understanding and tolerance. We ~~must~~^{will} not tolerate racism, bigotry, anti-semitism, and hate of any kind, anytime, anywhere. Not over the dinner table. Not in the boardroom. Not ~~at~~^{on} the playground. Nowhere.

Rhetoric a bit hackneyed

This Sunday, I ask all Americans to lend their hearts and their voices to the healing of hatred -- to a new harmony between the races.

Spell out! Do you mean pray?

Tonight, let me say to the people sickened by the spectacle of the past few days -- to the good people of East Los Angeles, caught at the center of this senseless terror: The violence will end. Calm will return. Justice will be served.

Thank you, and God bless the United States of America.

#

SBA attachment

**POTENTIALLY UNUSUAL ASPECTS OF
DELIVERY OF SBA DISASTER ASSISTANCE FOR
LOS ANGELES CIVIL DISORDERS**

1. **Insurance.** Typical hazard insurance policies exclude coverage for damages from riots or civil disorders. Many property owners will find they have no insurance coverage for their losses.
2. **Businesses.** Businesses appear to be a heavy proportion of the victims, unlike the typical disaster which damages about 4 homes for every business.
3. **Repayment Ability.** SBA's disaster assistance is in the form of loans, and applicants must meet SBA's credit standards. In relatively poor neighborhoods, many businesses achieve marginal financial success. Ability to repay loans may be limited, especially if the uninsured losses are large. Accordingly, SBA's approval rate may be lower than normal.
4. **Neighborhood Recovery.** In the past, recovery of neighborhoods after such disorders is often slow. Many businesses never reopen in the neighborhood. Many relocate elsewhere. SBA disaster loans help businesses by allowing a relocation, but this is a very sensitive issue in the affected neighborhoods.
5. **Code Compliance.** Rebuilding after substantial damage will require compliance with current building codes. In the earthquake prone Los Angeles area, this includes meeting modern earthquake standards. Experience demonstrates that this is very costly.
6. **Widespread Damage.** The south-central neighborhoods of Los Angeles, where the property damage is concentrated, is a vast area which is larger than the District of Columbia.

*Definition of disaster includes Riots and civil disorders.

SBA
Attachment

BASIC FACTS ABOUT SBA DISASTER LOAN PROGRAMS

In the wake of hurricanes, floods, earthquakes, wildfires, tornados and other physical disasters, the U. S. Small Business Administration (SBA) plays a major role. SBA's disaster loans are the primary form of Federal assistance for nonfarm, private sector disaster losses. For this reason, the disaster loan program is the only form of SBA assistance not limited to small businesses. Disaster loans from SBA help homeowners, renters, businesses of all sizes and nonprofit organizations fund rebuilding. SBA's disaster loans are a critical source of economic stimulation in disaster ravaged communities, helping to spur employment and stabilize tax bases.

By providing disaster assistance in the form of loans which are repaid to the Treasury, the SBA disaster loan program helps reduce Federal disaster costs compared to other forms of assistance, such as grants. When disaster victims need to borrow to repair uninsured damages, the low interest rates and long terms available from SBA make recovery affordable. Because SBA tailors the repayment of each disaster loan to each borrower's financial capability, unnecessary interest subsidies paid by the taxpayers are avoided. Moreover, providing disaster assistance in the form of loans rather than grants avoids creating an incentive for property owners to underinsure against risk. Disaster loans require borrowers to maintain appropriate hazard and flood insurance coverage, thereby reducing the need for future disaster assistance.

The need for SBA disaster loans is as unpredictable as the weather. During FY 1991, SBA approved 12,451 disaster loans for \$356.3 million. This compares to 51,970 disaster loans for \$1.32 billion in FY 1990, due largely to the destruction of Hurricane Hugo in the Caribbean and the Carolinas and the Loma Prieta earthquake in the San Francisco Bay area of California. Since the inception of the program in 1953, SBA has approved over 1,050,000 disaster loans for more than \$15.3 billion.

The SBA is authorized by the Small Business Act to make two types of disaster loans:

Physical disaster loans are a primary source of funding for permanent rebuilding and replacement of uninsured disaster damages to privately-owned real and/or personal property. SBA's physical disaster loans are available to homeowners, renters, nonfarm businesses of all sizes and nonprofit organizations.

Economic injury disaster loans help provide necessary working capital until resumption of normal operations after a physical disaster event. The law restricts economic injury disaster loans to small businesses only.

The disaster program is SBA's largest direct loan program, and the only SBA program assisting entities other than small businesses. By law, neither governmental units nor agricultural enterprises are eligible; agricultural producers may seek disaster assistance from specialized programs at the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Disaster victims must repay SBA disaster loans. SBA can only approve loans to applicants with a reasonable ability to repay the loan and other obligations from earnings. The terms of each loan are established in accordance with each borrower's ability to repay. The law gives SBA several powerful tools to make disaster loans affordable: low interest rates (as low as 4%), long terms (up to 30 years), and refinancing of prior debts (in some cases). As required by law, the interest rate for each loan is based on SBA's determination of whether each applicant does or does not have credit available elsewhere (the ability to borrow or use their own resources to overcome the disaster). Generally, over 90% of SBA's disaster loans are to borrowers without credit available elsewhere and have an interest rate of 4%.

SBA delivers disaster loans through four specialized Disaster Area Offices located in Niagara Falls, NY; Atlanta, GA; Ft. Worth, TX; and Sacramento, CA.

SECRETARY OF LABOR
WASHINGTON

May 1, 1992

MEMORANDUM FOR SAM SKINNER

FROM: LYNN MARTIN

SUBJECT: Department of Labor Assistance to Los Angeles

Assuming you would want to know what might be available from our Department, attached are lists of ways the Department of Labor (DOL) can help with the situation in Los Angeles.

One list gives options for additional assistance that DOL could provide to Los Angeles immediately. Also attached is a list of current DOL projects operating in the area at this time. Finally, there is a list of discretionary grants to Los Angeles or to the State of California that the President could announce now.

Let me know how you would like to proceed on any of these items. You know that we stand ready to help in any way we can.

Attachments

DD -
Also - Gov Wilson
wants to be notified
if POTUS says anything
about SBA loans -
- DMJ

OPTIONS FOR ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR LOS ANGELES CITY AND LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Employment Assistance:

- \$2.0 Million - Provide emergency grants to hire and pay wages of workers dislocated as a result of the riots. These grants may be used to create temporary employment such as cleanup and other restoration jobs in the riot areas.

Training Assistance:

- \$500,000 - Additional funds to the YOU program operated in South Central LA to expand programs provided by the Community Youth Gang Services(CYGS) under YOU. CYGS allows youth to participate in community service projects as an alternative to incarceration.
- \$500,000 - Finance pilot youth apprenticeship models for young Black and Hispanic males.
- \$500,000 - Supplement local economic development efforts. DOL funds would finance training efforts.
- HUD and DOL are ready to announce the new "Step-Up" program to train public housing residents in construction skills while upgrading public housing. The apprenticeship approach to training will be used. The final pieces will be put in place in two weeks.

EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING PROJECTS PRESENTLY OPERATING IN LOS ANGELES CITY AND LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Program: JTPA Youth Opportunities Unlimited (YOU)
Area/Amount: LA City/\$1.0 m
Other Info: Multiyear, neighborhood focussed, intensive project in riot area for at-risk, economically disadvantaged youth.

Program: Job Corps
Area/Amount: LA City/\$12.5 m
Other Info: Center capacity was 735 (380 residential & 355 non-residential).

 Satellite building housing education classes for nonresident students was destroyed by fire today.

Program: "Workforce LA Youth Academy:
Area/Amount: LA City/\$700,000
Other Info: School-to-Work demonstration grant with LA Unified School District.

Program: JOBSTART
Area/Amount: LA City/\$150,000
Other Info: Remedial education and skill training program targeted to dropouts.

Program: "LA Works" - NAB
Area/Amount: LA City/\$240,000 DOL & \$240,000 raised locally
Other Info: Operates a number of projects in support of "America 2000" including a school-to-work project and support to local efforts to implement SCANS.

Program: JTPA Title IIB Summer Program
Area/Amount: LA City/\$11.0 m.
Other Info: Balance of LA Cnty/\$10.6 m
 Will begin at the end of the school year and provide jobs to about 10,000 disadvantaged youth in the city and 10,000 in the outlying areas.

Program: JTPA Title III EDWAA Discretionary Program
Amount: City & County/\$2.4 m

Program: JTPA Title IIA Block Grant Program
Area/Amount: LA City/\$22.7 m
 Balance of LA Cnty/\$22.3 m

Program: JTPA Title III EDWAA Formula Program
Area/Amount: LA City/\$2.5 m
Balance of LA Cnty/\$2.8 m

CALIFORNIA TITLE III DISCRETIONARY PROJECTS

Current Grants:

- LA City has a grant of \$375,000 and LA County \$2,000,000 to assist dislocated aerospace workers.

Proposals under Consideration:

- Emergency grant request of \$1.5 million for Petrolia Earthquake can immediately be announced by the President or the Secretary..
- Emergency grant request for Los Angeles Floods.
- Defense Conversion Adjustment request for George AFB.

(DDDMAF)
May 1, 1992
Draft One
LA

12 MAY 1 P2:33

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS ON CIVIL DISORDER IN LOS ANGELES
MAY 1, 1992
9:00 PM

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awkward

An innocent *going about his own business,*
~~A random~~ truck driver was pulled out of his cab in broad daylight. He was punched, kicked -- beaten to the point of unconsciousness, robbed, and left to bleed in the street. *He died.* The brutality we saw on our television sets was as sickening as it was terrifying.

What is going on now in Los Angeles is not about civil rights. It is not about the great cause of *equal protection of the law* equality that all Americans must uphold. It is not a message of protest. It is *now* the barbarism of a mob -- pure and simple.

why qualify?

And what is going on in L.A. must and will stop. Order will be restored to the streets of Los Angeles.

In a civilized society, there ~~can be~~ *is* no excuse -- no excuse -- for the murder, arson, theft, and vandalism that have terrorized the law-abiding citizens of *Central and* East Los Angeles.

The wanton destruction of life and property is not a legitimate expression of outrage ~~with injustice~~ -- it is itself

** * We don't know if there's been injustice.*

Dan - these are my comments
for whatever their worth -

OCA's will follow.

- Jay

injustice. And no rationalization, no matter how heart-felt, no matter how eloquent, can make it otherwise.

To Americans of all races who were shocked by the verdict, let me say this. I spoke this morning to many leaders of the civil rights community. They saw the video of Rodney King being beaten by the police, as did the rest of us. For fourteen months, they waited. Patiently. Hopefully. They waited for the system to work. When the verdict came in, they felt betrayed.

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There are two very different issues at hand. One is the question of whether the civil rights of Rodney King were violated. ^{or} So let me tell you what actions we are taking on the federal level to ensure that justice is served.

← The verdict Wednesday was not the end of the process. Within one hour of the verdict, the Justice Department launched into high gear its own federal criminal investigation into the King case.

On Thursday Associate Attorney General Wayne Budd was immediately dispatched to Los Angeles with five federal civil rights division prosecutors. I have great confidence in our

the other is the absolute imperative to restore order.

our legal system inflict an injury just as surely as those who riot in the streets. The jury system is not perfect - No man-made institution is. But it is the Foundation of our democratic legal system.

Justice Department's ability to fully investigate a matter like this. In the last _____ the Justice Department has successfully prosecuted _____ of police violence cases.

X The federal effort in this case will be swift -- and it will be fair. *but* It will not be driven by mob violence, *It will, as it should, be* ~~but~~ by respect *guided* for due process and the rule of law.

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It is ^{not only} for ^{the victims of} ^{the} ^{violence} ^{but also for} ^{as well as} ^{the} ^{survivors} every one of them that we must rebuild the community of Los Angeles -- for these four ^{courageous} people and the ^{many} others like them who in the midst of this nightmare acted with simple human decency.

For their sake, for all our sakes: We must build a future where in every city across this country, empty rage gives way to hope -- where poverty and despair give way to opportunity. We must keep on working to create a climate of understanding and tolerance. We must not tolerate racism, bigotry, anti-semitism, and hate of any kind, anytime, anywhere. Not over the dinner table. Not in the boardroom. Not in the playground. Nowhere.

This Sunday, I ask all Americans to lend their hearts and their voices to the healing of hatred -- to a new harmony between the races.

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Thank you, and God bless the United States of America.

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CLOSE HOLD

Document No. _____

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

ASAPI!, MAY 1, FRI

DATE: 5/1/92

ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY:

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS ON CIVIL DISORDER IN LOS ANGELES
MAY 1, 1992
9:00PM

SUBJECT: _____

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REMARKS:

Please provide comments on the attached directly to David Demarest, 2ndF1, WW, x7620, with a copy to this office ASAP, TODAY, FRIDAY, MAY 1. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

CLOSE HOLD

PHILLIP D. BRADY
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 2702

5

Television has become a medium that often brings us together. But its vivid display of Rodney King's beating shocked us. ~~Its sudden rendering of the jury's verdict tore us apart.~~ And the America it has shown us on our screens these last 48 hours has appalled us. None of this is what we wish to think of as American. It is as if we were looking in a mirror that distorted our better selves and turned us ugly. We cannot let that happen. We cannot do that to ourselves.

We have seen images in the last 48 hours that we will never forget. Some were horrifying almost beyond belief. But there were other acts -- small, but significant acts in all this ugliness that give us hope: People who have spent each night not in the streets, but in the churches of ^{South Central} ~~east~~ Los Angeles -- praying that man's gentler instincts be revealed in the hearts of people driven by hate. There were the citizens who showed great personal responsibility -- who ignored the mob -- who at great personal danger, helped the victims of violence -- regardless of race.

Among the many stories I've seen and heard about these past few days, one sticks in my mind. The story of one savagely beaten white truck driver -- alive tonight because four strangers, four black strangers, came to his aid. Two were men who had been watching television and saw the beating as it was happening, and came out into the street to help. Another was a woman on her way home from work -- the fourth, a young man whose name we may never know. The injured driver was able to get

7

establish justice and ^Ensure domestic tranquility. That duty is foremost in my mind tonight.

Let me say to the people saddened by the spectacle of the past few days -- to the good people of East Los Angeles, caught at the center of this senseless suffering: The violence will end. Justice will be served. Hope will return.

Thank you, and God bless the United States of America.

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Tonight, my heart goes out to those who have felt betrayed by a system of justice that seemed to have gone wrong -- and to those who have suffered since from the angry reaction of a frustrated and misguided mob.

Master

5130

(DDDMAF)
May 1, 1992
Draft Three
LA

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS ON CIVIL DISORDER IN LOS ANGELES
MAY 1, 1992
9:00 PM

Tonight, my heart goes out to those who have felt betrayed by a system of justice that seemed to have gone wrong -- and to those who have suffered since from the angry reaction of a frustrated and misguided mob.

Two days ago, in a highly controversial court case, a verdict was handed down by a California jury. To Americans of all races who were shocked by the verdict, let me say this. I spoke this morning to many leaders of the civil rights community. They saw the video of Rodney King being beaten by the police, as did the rest of us. For fourteen months, they waited. Patiently. Hopefully. They waited for the system to work. When the verdict came in, they felt betrayed.

Viewed from outside the trial, it was hard to understand how the verdict could possibly square with the video. Those civil rights leaders with whom I met were stunned. So was I. So was Barbara. So were my kids. But those shocked and angered by this outcome must understand: our system of justice provides for the peaceful, orderly means of addressing this frustration. But we must respect the process of law whether or not we agree with the

outcome. There is a difference between frustration with the law and direct assaults upon it.

There are two very different issues at hand. One is the question of whether the actions of the police violated Rodney King's federal civil rights. So let me tell you what actions we are taking on the federal level to ensure that justice is served.

The verdict Wednesday was not the end of the process. Within one hour of the ^{state} verdict, I directed the Justice Department ~~to move into high gear~~ ^{RESUME} on its own independent criminal investigation into the case, *and move it into high gear immediately.*

On Thursday, at my direction, Associate Attorney General Wayne Budd was immediately dispatched to Los Angeles with five federal civil rights division prosecutors. Our Justice Department has ^{consistently} ~~often~~ demonstrated its ability to investigate fully a matter like this. ^{Since 1988} ~~In the last~~ _____ the Justice Department has successfully prosecuted ^{over 100 cases} ~~_____~~ of ^{law enforcement officials of} ~~police violence~~ ^{excessive} ~~cases~~. I'm confident that in this case, the Department of Justice will act as it should.

Federal grand jury action is underway today in Los Angeles. Subpoenas have been issued. Evidence is being reviewed.

The federal effort in this case will be swift -- and it will be fair. It will not be driven by mob violence, but by respect for due process and the rule of law.

We owe it to all Americans who put their faith in the law to see that justice is served. But as we move forward on this or any other case, we must remember the fundamental tenet of our

legal system: every American is entitled to protection of his or her rights.

Beyond the question of civil rights, there is a second fundamental issue: the urgent need to restore order. What followed Wednesday's jury verdict in the city of Los Angeles was a tragic series of events: 1,500 fires, staggering property damage, thousands of injuries, and the senseless deaths of over thirty people.

An innocent truck driver, chosen at random, was pulled out of his cab in broad daylight. He was punched, kicked -- beaten to the point of unconsciousness, robbed, and left to bleed in the street. ^{What} ~~The brutality~~ we saw on our television sets was as sickening as it was terrifying.

What ^{has gone on} ~~is going on~~ now in Los Angeles is not about civil rights. It is not about the great cause of equality that all Americans must uphold. It is not a message of protest. It ^{has been} ~~is~~ ^{brutality} ~~now~~ the barbarism of a mob -- pure and simple.

What is going on in L.A. must and will stop. Order will be restored to the streets of Los Angeles.

In a civilized society, there can be no excuse -- no excuse -- for the murder, arson, theft, and vandalism that have terrorized the law-abiding citizens of ~~East~~ Los Angeles.

The wanton destruction of life and property is not a legitimate expression of outrage with injustice -- it is itself injustice. And no rationalization, no matter how heart-felt, no matter how eloquent, can make it otherwise. In the wake of the

first night's violence, I spoke directly with California ^{Governor} Pete Wilson, and Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley -- to assess the situation, and to offer assistance.

Right now, there are [1400] National Guardsmen on duty in the City of Los Angeles. Another [1200] stand ready to provide immediate support.

Today, to supplement this effort to restore order, I've taken several additional actions. First, I have ordered the Justice Department to dispatch 1000 Federal riot-trained law enforcement officials to help restore order in Los Angeles -- beginning tonight. These officials include FBI SWAT teams, special riot control units of the U.S. Marshal Service, the Border Patrol, and other federal law enforcement agencies.

Second, another 1000 Federal Law Enforcement officials are on stand by alert should they be needed.

Third, I have ^{directed} ~~authorized~~ 3000 members of the 7th Infantry, and 1500 Marines to stand by at El Toro Air Station, California, available for duty this evening. And in the event these troops are sent in, I am prepared to Federalize the National Guard.

Television has become a medium that often brings us together. But its vivid display of Rodney King's beating shocked us. Its sudden rendering of the jury's verdict tore us apart. And the America it has shown us on our screens these last 48 hours has appalled us. None of this is what we wish to think of as American. It is as if we were looking in a mirror that

distorted our better selves and turned us ugly. We cannot let that happen. We cannot do that to ourselves.

We have seen images in the last 48 hours that we will never forget. Some were horrifying almost beyond belief. But there were other acts -- small, but significant acts in all this ugliness that give us hope: People who have spent each night not in the streets, but in the churches of east Los Angeles -- praying that man's gentler instincts be revealed in the hearts of people driven by hate. There were the citizens who showed great personal responsibility -- who ignored the mob -- who at great personal danger, helped the victims of violence -- regardless of race.

Among the many stories I've seen and heard about these past few days, one sticks in my mind. The story of one savagely beaten white truck driver -- alive tonight because four strangers, four black strangers, came to his aid. Two were men who had been watching television and saw the beating as it was happening, and came out into the street to help. Another was a woman on her way home from work -- the fourth, a young man whose name we may never know. Together, those four people braved the mob and drove that truck driver to the hospital. He is alive today -- only because they stepped in to help.

It is for every one of them that we must rebuild the community of Los Angeles -- for these four people and the others like them who in the midst of this nightmare acted with simple human decency.

We must understand that no one in Los Angeles or any other city has rendered a verdict on America. If we are to remain the most vibrant and hopeful nation on earth we must allow our diversity to bind us together, not drive us apart. This must be the rallying cry of good and decent people.

For their sake, for all our sakes: We must build a future where in every city across this country, empty rage gives way to hope -- where poverty and despair give way to opportunity. We must keep on working to create a climate of understanding and tolerance. ~~We must not tolerate~~ *a climate that never accepts* racism, bigotry, anti-semitism, and hate of any kind, anytime, anywhere.

~~This weekend~~ *Tonight*, I ask all Americans to lend their hearts, their voices, and their prayers to the healing of hatred. As President I took an oath to preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution -- an oath that requires every President to establish justice and insure domestic tranquility. That duty is foremost in my mind tonight.

Let me say to the people saddened by the spectacle of the past few days -- to the good people of East Los Angeles, caught at the center of this senseless suffering: The violence will end. Justice will be served. Hope will return.

Thank you, and God bless the United States of America.

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 1, 1992

MEMORANDUM FOR DAVE DEMAREST

FROM: C. BOYDEN GRAY *cmh*
SUBJECT: POTUS Address on Civil Disorder in LA

At Phil Brady's request, I have reviewed the captioned draft speech. Suggested changes are marked on the attached hard copy.

I appreciate having had the opportunity to review this draft speech.

cc: Phil Brady

(DDDMAF)
May 1, 1992
Draft One
LA

12 MAY 1 P2:33

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS ON CIVIL DISORDER IN LOS ANGELES
MAY 1, 1992
9:00 PM

Two days ago, in a highly publicized and controversial court case, a verdict was handed down by a duly appointed jury. What followed in the city of Los Angeles was a tragic series of events including the 1,500 fires, staggering property damage, thousands of arrests and injuries, and the senseless deaths of over thirty people.

A random truck driver was pulled out of his cab in broad daylight. He was punched, kicked -- beaten to the point of unconsciousness, robbed, and left to bleed in the street. The brutality we saw on our television sets was as sickening as it was terrifying.

What is going on now in Los Angeles is not about civil rights. It is not about the great cause of equality that all Americans must uphold. It is not a message of protest. It is now the barbarism of a mob -- pure and simple.

And what is going on in L.A. must and will stop. Order will be restored to the streets of Los Angeles.

In a civilized society, there can be no excuse -- no excuse -- for the murder, arson, theft, and vandalism that have terrorized the law-abiding citizens of East Los Angeles.

The wanton destruction of life and property is not a legitimate expression of outrage with injustice -- it is itself

No principle is more important than that those entrusted with enforcing the law must obey it.

injustice. And no rationalization, no matter how heart-felt, no matter how eloquent, can make it otherwise.

To Americans of all races who were shocked by the verdict, let me say this. I spoke this morning to many leaders of the civil rights community. They saw the video of Rodney King being beaten by the police, as did the rest of us. For fourteen months, they waited. Patiently. Hopefully. They waited for the system to work. When the verdict came in, they felt betrayed.

Many Americans

We all felt it hard to comprehend how the verdict could possibly square with the horrifying video. Those civil rights leaders were stunned. So was I. So was Barbara. So were my kids. But those ashamed and angered by this outcome must understand: our system of justice provides for the peaceful, orderly means of addressing this frustration. There is a difference between frustration with the law and direct assaults upon it. and upon innocent people

There are two very different issues at hand. One is the question of whether the civil rights of Rodney King were violated. So let me tell you what actions we are taking on the federal level to ensure that justice is served.

The verdict Wednesday was not the end of the process. Within one hour of the verdict, the Justice Department launched into high gear its own federal criminal investigation into the King case. resumed, and put

On Thursday Associate Attorney General Wayne Budd was immediately dispatched to Los Angeles with five federal civil rights division prosecutors. I have great confidence in our

That investigation had been put on hold while the State of California pursued its case.

Justice Department's ability to fully investigate a matter like this. In the last _____ the Justice Department has successfully prosecuted _____ of police violence cases.

The federal effort in this case will be swift -- and it will be fair. It will not be driven by mob violence, but by respect for due process and the rule of law.

~~We owe it to all Americans who put their faith in the law to see that justice is served. But as we move forward on this or any other case, we must remember the fundamental tenet of our legal system: every American is entitled to his rights.~~

Meanwhile

Beyond the question of civil rights, there is the urgent need to restore order. In the wake of the first night's violence, I spoke directly with California Pete Wilson, and Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley -- to assess the situation, and to offer assistance.

[[Examples of federal assistance to L.A. community]]

Right now, there are [1400] National Guardsmen on duty in the City of Los Angeles. Another [1200] stand ready to provide immediate support.

Today, to supplement this effort to restore order, I've taken several additional actions. First, I have ordered the Justice Department to dispatch [1000] Federal riot-trained law enforcement officials to help restore order in Los Angeles -- beginning tonight. These officials include SWAT teams and riot police, members of the Border Patrol and Bureau of Prisons and the U.S. Marshall Service.

directed

4

Second, another [750] Federal Law Enforcement officials are on stand by alert should they be needed.

Third, I have ~~authorized~~ [4000] members of the 8th Infantry to stand by at Fort Ord, California. In the event they are needed, they are available for duty this evening as well. And in the event these troops are sent in, I am prepared to Federalize the National Guard.

We have seen images in the last 72 hours that we will never forget. Some were horrifying almost beyond belief. But there were other acts -- small, but significant acts in all this ugliness that give us hope: People who have spent each night not in the streets, but in the churches of east Los Angeles -- praying that man's gentler instincts be revealed in the hearts of people driven by hate. Citizens who ignored the mob -- who at great personal danger, helped the victims of violence -- regardless of race.

Among the many stories I've seen and heard about these past few days, one sticks in my mind. The story of one savagely beaten white truck driver -- alive tonight because four strangers, four black strangers, came to his aid. Two were men who had been watching the beating live on television, who came out into the street to help if they could. One was a woman on here way home from work -- the fourth, a young man whose name we may never know. Together, those four people braved the mob and drove that truck driver to the hospital. He is alive today -- only because they stepped in to help.

It is for every one of them that we must rebuild the community of Los Angeles -- for these four people and the others like them who in the midst of this nightmare acted with simple human decency.

For their sake, for all our sakes: We must build a future where in every city across this country, empty rage gives way to hope -- where poverty and despair give way to opportunity. We must keep on working to create a climate of understanding and tolerance. We must not tolerate racism, bigotry, ~~anti-semitism~~, and hate of any kind, anytime, anywhere. Not over the dinner table. Not in the boardroom. Not in the playground. Nowhere.

Tonight
This Sunday, I ask all Americans to lend their hearts and their voices to the healing of hatred -- to a new harmony between the races.

Tonight, let me say to the people sickened by the spectacle of the past few days -- to the good people of East Los Angeles, caught at the center of this senseless terror: The violence will end. Calm will return. Justice will be served.

Thank you, and God bless the United States of America.

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Tonight, at the
request of the Gov and
the mayor, I have
committed these troops
to help restore order
I am also

federalizing the national
guard and ^{instructed} all these
troops ~~with~~ under
a central command.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Tonight
~~Just now~~ at

the request of the
Governor + the Mayor

I have agreed to
federalized the National
Guard ~~and commit~~
these troops in their
efforts under a central
federal Command
and I have notified

FR

(B)

(9) Television has become a medium that offers
~~together~~. But ~~its~~ its vivid display of Rodney King's
 beating ~~has~~ shocked us. ~~It~~ Its ~~instant~~
~~that~~ ~~of~~ sudden rendering of the jury's
 Rodney King we saw ~~on TV~~ verdict ~~has~~
 shocked us. ~~That~~ us again.
 And

The America ~~it~~ ~~has~~ ~~shown~~ ~~us~~ on our screens
 these past ~~the~~ hours ~~has~~ ~~been~~ ~~so~~ ~~appalling~~
 as ~~it~~

None of this is what we ~~should~~ ~~be~~
 wish to think of as American.

It is as if we were looking in ~~the~~
 a mirror that distorted our
 better selves and turned us ugly.

We cannot let ~~it~~ that happen.

We cannot do that to ourselves.

order
 following
 justice

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 1, 1992

MEMORANDUM FOR DAVID DEMAREST

FROM: ROGER B. PORTER

SUBJECT: Presidential Address on Civil Disorder in Los Angeles

The first draft of the President's remarks tonight on the civil disorder in Los Angeles is excellent. I sense that you accurately have captured the tone that the President expressed in his meeting with us earlier this morning.

My suggestions are as follows:

1. In the first sentence we should strike "duly appointed" and simply state "handed down by a jury." In discussing this with the Attorney General he feels this is more appropriate. I agree.

2. The tone on the first page suggests that there is still a high level of violence occurring in Los Angeles -- "What is going on now in Los Angeles." We will need to check this carefully and have alternative language ready. Viewers may see on the network news programs this evening reports that the violence has subsided, only to hear the President at 9:00 p.m. EST, speaking as if the streets are still filled with violence and lawlessness.

3. In the second full paragraph on page two, I recommend replacing "ashamed" with shocked. In my notes from the President's meeting with civil rights leaders he used the term shocked. He did not use the word ashamed. Webster's defines ashamed as a feeling of shame, guilt, disgrace or feeling inferior or unworthy. Shame is defined as a painful emotion caused by a consciousness of guilt, shortcoming, or impropriety.

4. The Attorney General also recommends that the second full paragraph on page two read as follows:

"Viewed from outside the trial, it was hard to understand how the verdict could possibly square with the video. Those civil rights leaders with whom I met were stunned. So was I. So was Barbara. So were my kids. But those shocked and angered by this outcome must understand: our system of justice provides for the peaceful, orderly means of addressing this

frustration. But we must respect the process of law whether we agree with the outcome. There is a difference between frustration with the law and direct assaults upon it."

5. In the third full paragraph on page two, we recommend changing the second sentence to read: "One is the question of whether the actions of the police violated Rodney King's federal civil rights."

6. I also spoke with the Attorney General about the Justice Department activities in Los Angeles today. This afternoon Associate Attorney General Wayne Budd will hold a press conference and announce that substantial grand jury activity is now underway, that subpoenas are being issued, and that evidence is being reviewed.

Given this I discussed with Bill Barr the following insert starting with the last full paragraph on page two:

"The verdict Wednesday was not the end of the process. The Department of Justice had started its investigation immediately after the Rodney King incident and was monitoring the state investigation and trial.

"Consistent with established practice, Federal action was deferred until the state trial was completed. Within one hour of the state verdict, the Justice Department put into high gear its own independent criminal investigation into the King case.

"Within hours, five federal prosecutors were on their way to Los Angeles where they joined additional prosecutors from the U.S. Attorney's office and FBI agents also working on this matter. The number three official in the Department of Justice went to Los Angeles yesterday to personally supervise the case.

"Federal grand jury action is underway today in Los Angeles. Subpoenas have been issued. Evidence is being reviewed."

7. In the last paragraph on page three we recommend after the first sentence:

"First, I have ordered the Justice Department to dispatch 1,000 Federal law enforcement personnel to help restore order in Los Angeles beginning tonight. These include FBI SWAT teams and special riot control units of the U.S. marshall, the border patrol, Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, the Bureau of Prisons, and the Park Police. These have been flown in throughout the day and are on the ground as I speak.

Second we are prepared to deploy an additional 1,000

Federal law enforcement personnel to Los Angeles should they be needed."

(DDDMF)
May 1, 1992
Draft Three
LA

2 MAY 1 P5:28

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS ON CIVIL DISORDER IN LOS ANGELES
MAY 1, 1992
9:00 PM

Tonight, my heart goes out to those who have felt betrayed by a system of justice that seemed to have gone wrong -- and to those who have suffered since from the angry reaction of a frustrated and misguided mob.

Two days ago, in a highly controversial court case, a verdict was handed down by a California jury. To Americans of all races who were shocked by the verdict, let me say this. I spoke this morning to many leaders of the civil rights community. They saw the ^{horrible} video of Rodney King being beaten by the police, as did the rest of us. For fourteen months, they waited. Patiently. Hopefully. They waited for the system to work. When the verdict came in, they felt betrayed.

Viewed from outside the trial, it was hard to understand how the verdict could possibly square with the video. Those civil rights leaders with whom I met were stunned. So was I. So was Barbara. So were my kids. But those shocked and angered by this outcome must understand: our system of justice provides for the peaceful, orderly means of addressing this frustration. But we must respect the process of law whether or not we agree with the

outcome. There is a difference between frustration with the law and direct assaults upon it.

There are two very different issues at hand. One is the question of whether the actions of the police violated Rodney King's federal civil rights. So let me tell you what actions we are taking on the federal level to ensure that justice is served.

The verdict Wednesday was not the end of the process. Within one hour of the verdict, I directed the Justice Department to move into high gear on its own independent criminal investigation into the case.

On Thursday, at my direction, Associate Attorney General Wayne Budd was immediately dispatched to Los Angeles with five federal civil rights division prosecutors. Our Justice Department has often demonstrated its ability to investigate fully a matter like this. In the last _____ the Justice Department has successfully prosecuted _____ of police violence cases. I'm confident that in this case, the Department of Justice will act as it should.

Federal grand jury action is underway today in Los Angeles. Subpoenas have been issued. Evidence is being reviewed.

The federal effort in this case will be swift -- and it will be fair. It will not be driven by mob violence, but by respect for due process and the rule of law.

We owe it to all Americans who put their faith in the law to see that justice is served. But as we move forward on this or any other case, we must remember the fundamental tenet of our

legal system: every American is entitled to protection of his or her rights.

Beyond the question of civil rights, there is a second fundamental issue: the urgent need to restore order. What followed Wednesday's jury verdict in the city of Los Angeles was a tragic series of events: 1,500 fires, staggering property damage, thousands of injuries, and the senseless deaths of over thirty people.

An innocent truck driver, chosen at random, was pulled out of his cab in broad daylight. He was punched, kicked -- beaten to the point of unconsciousness, robbed, and left to bleed in the street. The brutality we saw on our television sets was as sickening as it was terrifying.

What is going on now in Los Angeles is not about civil rights. It is not about the great cause of equality that all Americans must uphold. It is not a message of protest. It is now the *anarchy* barbarism of a mob -- pure and simple.

What is going on in L.A. must and will stop. Order will be restored to the streets of Los Angeles.

In a civilized society, there can be no excuse -- no excuse -- for the murder, arson, theft, and vandalism that have terrorized the law-abiding citizens of East Los Angeles.

The wanton destruction of life and property is not a legitimate expression of outrage with injustice -- it is itself injustice. And no rationalization, no matter how heart-felt, no matter how eloquent, can make it otherwise. In the wake of the

first night's violence, I spoke directly with California Pete Wilson, and Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley -- to assess the situation, and to offer assistance.

Right now, there are [1400] National Guardsmen on duty in the City of Los Angeles. Another [1200] stand ready to provide immediate support.

Today, to supplement this effort to restore order, I've taken several additional actions. First, I have ordered the Justice Department to dispatch 1000 Federal riot-trained law enforcement officials to help restore order in Los Angeles -- beginning tonight. These officials include FBI SWAT teams, special riot control units of the U.S. Marshal Service, the Border Patrol, and other federal law enforcement agencies.

Second, another 1000 Federal Law Enforcement officials are on stand by alert should they be needed.

Third, I have authorized 3000 members of the 7th Infantry, and 1500 Marines to stand by at El Toro Air Station, California, available for duty this evening. And in the event these troops are sent in, I am prepared to Federalize the National Guard.

Television has become a medium that often brings us together. But its vivid display of Rodney King's beating shocked us. Its sudden rendering of the jury's verdict tore us apart. And the America it has shown us on our screens these last 48 hours has appalled us. None of this is what we wish to think of as American. It is as if we were looking in a mirror that

distorted our better selves and turned us ugly. We cannot let that happen. We cannot do that to ourselves.

We have seen images in the last 48 hours that we will never forget. Some were horrifying almost beyond belief. But there were other acts -- small, but significant acts in all this ugliness that give us hope: People who have spent each night not in the streets, but in the churches of east Los Angeles -- praying that man's gentler instincts be revealed in the hearts of people driven by hate. There were the citizens who showed great personal responsibility -- who ignored the mob -- who at great personal danger, helped the victims of violence -- regardless of race.

Among the many stories I've seen and heard about these past few days, one sticks in my mind. The story of one savagely beaten white truck driver -- alive tonight because four strangers, four black strangers, came to his aid. Two were men who had been watching television and saw the beating as it was happening, and came out into the street to help. Another was a woman on her way home from work -- the fourth, a young man whose name we may never know. Together, those four people braved the mob and drove that truck driver to the hospital. He is alive today -- only because they stepped in to help.

It is for every one of them that we must rebuild the community of Los Angeles -- for these four people and the others like them who in the midst of this nightmare acted with simple human decency.

We must understand that no one in Los Angeles or any other city has rendered a verdict on America. If we are to remain the most vibrant and hopeful nation on earth we must allow our diversity to bind us together, not drive us apart. This must be the rallying cry of good and decent people.

For their sake, for all our sakes: We must build a future where in every city across this country, empty rage gives way to hope -- where poverty and despair give way to opportunity. We must keep on working to create a climate of understanding and tolerance. We must not tolerate racism, bigotry, anti-semitism, and hate of any kind, anytime, anywhere.

This weekend, I ask all Americans to lend their hearts, their voices, and their prayers to the healing of hatred. As President I took an oath to preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution -- an oath that requires every President to establish justice and insure domestic tranquility. That duty is foremost in my mind tonight.

Let me say to the people saddened by the spectacle of the past few days -- to the good people of East Los Angeles, caught at the center of this senseless suffering: The violence will end. Justice will be served. Hope will return.

Thank you, and God bless the United States of America.

#

(A)

With peace order restored
to Los Angeles we ~~that~~ must

then turn to the underlying
crises. Racism is on the

rise in the country. It must
be stopped. We must attack

the underlying causes or
poverty, education, drugs, + housing.

But we must do more than
that. We must recommit

ourselves to close the

divisions that exist between us.

America can not continue

this way. I will do

everything in my power to

bring these wounds

earlier today. Rodney King
the focus of this trial. We have

a press statement. He caused
for peace. And in a very

emotional + simple way he

captures the essence of the

solution.

Let

bring

we got to. We

WE'RE ALL STUCK HERE FOR
WHILE. "LET'S TRY TO WORK
IT OUT."

WE MUST WORK IT OUT.
WE'RE AMERICANS. WE'RE

BLESSED WITH A GREAT COUNTRY.
THERE IS NO PROBLEM WE
CAN'T SOLVE ^{IF WE} WORK
TOGETHER, IF WE CAN ABOUT
EACH OTHER, IF WE SACRIFICE FOR
EACH OTHER, IF WE REALIZE THAT
OUR DESTINIES ARE LINKED.

(DDDMAF)
May 1, 1992
Draft Two
LA

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS ON CIVIL DISORDER IN LOS ANGELES
MAY 1, 1992
9:00 PM

Tonight, my heart goes out to those who have felt betrayed by ^{our} a system of justice ~~that seemed to have gone wrong~~ -- and to ^{who} those ^{who} have suffered since from the angry reaction of a frustrated and misguided mob.

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^{Viewed from outside the trial it was hard to}
~~We all felt it hard to~~ comprehend how the verdict could possibly square with the video. Those civil rights leaders ^{with whom I met} were stunned. So was I. So was Barbara. So were my kids. But those ^{shocked} ~~ashamed~~ and angered by this outcome must understand: our system of justice provides for the peaceful, orderly means of addressing this frustration. There is a difference between frustration with the law and direct assaults upon it.

But we must respect the process of law whether we agree with the outcome.

There are two very different issues at hand. One is the question of whether the ~~civil rights~~ ^{actions of the police violated the} of Rodney King ^(federal civil rights) were violated. So let me tell you what actions we are taking on the federal level to ensure that justice is served.

The verdict Wednesday was not the end of the process. Within one hour of the verdict, I directed the Justice Department to move into high gear on its own ~~and conduct~~ ^{independent} federal criminal investigation into the King case.

On Thursday, at my direction, Associate Attorney General Wayne Budd was immediately dispatched to Los Angeles with five federal civil rights division prosecutors. Our Justice Department has often demonstrated its ability to ~~fully~~ investigate ^{fully} a matter like this. In the last _____ the Justice Department has successfully prosecuted _____ of police violence cases. I'm confident that in this case, the Department of Justice will act as it should, ~~as well.~~

The federal effort in this case will be swift -- and it will be fair. It will not be driven by mob violence, but by respect for due process and the rule of law.

We owe it to all Americans who put their faith in the law to see that justice is served. But as we move forward on this or any other case, we must remember the fundamental tenet of our legal system: every American is entitled to his or her rights. ^{Protection of} Beyond the question of civil rights, there is the urgent ^{a second fundamental issue:} need to restore order. What followed Wednesday's jury verdict in the city of Los Angeles was a tragic series of events: 1,500

Federal grand jury action is underway today in L.A. Subpoenas have been issued. Evidence is being reviewed.

fires, staggering property damage, thousands of injuries, and the senseless deaths of over thirty people.

An innocent truck driver, chosen at random, was pulled out of his cab in broad daylight. He was punched, kicked -- beaten to the point of unconsciousness, robbed, and left to bleed in the street. The brutality we saw on our television sets was as sickening as it was terrifying.

What is going on now in Los Angeles is not about civil rights. It is not about the great cause of equality that all Americans must uphold. It is not a message of protest. It is now the barbarism of a mob -- pure and simple.

What is going on in L.A. must and will stop. Order will be restored to the streets of Los Angeles.

In a civilized society, there can be no excuse -- no excuse -- for the murder, arson, theft, and vandalism that have terrorized the law-abiding citizens of East Los Angeles.

The wanton destruction of life and property is not a legitimate expression of outrage with injustice -- it is itself injustice. And no rationalization, no matter how heart-felt, no matter how eloquent, can make it otherwise. In the wake of the first night's violence, I spoke directly with California Pete Wilson, and Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley -- to assess the situation, and to offer assistance.

Right now, there are [1400] National Guardsmen on duty in the City of Los Angeles. Another [1200] stand ready to provide immediate support.

Today, to supplement this effort to restore order, I've taken several additional actions. First, I have ordered the Justice Department to dispatch ~~[1000]~~ Federal riot-trained law enforcement officials to help restore order in Los Angeles -- beginning tonight. These officials include SWAT teams and ^{FBI} special riot control units ^{of the} police, members of the Border Patrol and Bureau of Prisons and the U.S. Marshall Service. *This have been down in throughout ATF the day and an on the ground as I speak.*

Second, another ¹⁰⁰⁰ ~~[750]~~ Federal Law Enforcement officials are on stand-by alert should they be needed.

Third, I have authorized ³⁰⁰⁰ ~~[4000]~~ members of the ⁷ 8th Infantry to stand by at Fort Ord, California, ~~in the event they are needed,~~ they are available for duty this evening, as well. And in the event these troops are sent in, I am prepared to Federalize the National Guard.

() INSERT (B)*

We have seen images in the last ⁴⁸ ~~72~~ hours that we will never forget. Some were horrifying almost beyond belief. But there were other acts -- small, but significant acts in all this ugliness that give us hope: People who have spent each night not in the streets, but in the churches of east Los Angeles -- praying that man's gentler instincts be revealed in the hearts of people driven by hate. *there were the* Citizens who ignored the mob -- who at great personal danger, helped the victims of violence -- regardless of race.

Among the many stories I've seen and heard about these past few days, one sticks in my mind. The story of one savagely beaten white truck driver -- alive tonight because four

demonstrated per accept showed personal response to life

*most majority
take their kids
protect their property*

strangers, four black strangers, came to his aid. Two were men who had been watching television and saw the beating as it was happening, and came out into the street to help. Another was a woman on here way home from work -- the fourth, a young man whose name we may never know. Together, those four people braved the mob and drove that truck driver to the hospital. He is alive today -- only because they stepped in to help.

It is for every one of them that we must rebuild the community of Los Angeles -- for these four people and the others like them who in the midst of this nightmare acted with simple human decency.

We must understand that no one in Los Angeles or any other city has rendered a verdict on America. If we are to remain the most vibrant and hopeful nation on earth we must allow our diversity to bind us together, not drive us apart. This must be the rallying cry of good and decent people.

For their sake, for all our sakes: We must build a future where in every city across this country, empty rage gives way to hope -- where poverty and despair give way to opportunity. We must keep on working to create a climate of understanding and tolerance. We must not tolerate racism, bigotry, anti-semitism, and hate of any kind, anytime, anywhere.

This ^{weekend} Sunday, I ask all Americans to lend their hearts ~~and~~ their voices ^{their prayers} to the healing of hatred.

Tonight, let me say to the people sickened by the spectacle of the past few days -- to the good people of East Los Angeles,

order, tolerance & justice

caught at the center of this senseless terror: The violence will end. Hope will return. Justice will be served.

Thank you, and God bless the United States of America.

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CLOSE HOLD

Document No. _____

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM



DATE: 5/1/92 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: ASAP!!, MAY 1, FRI.

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS ON CIVIL DISORDER IN LOS ANGELES

MAY 1, 1992

SUBJECT: 9:00PM

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HORNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SKINNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCBRIDE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MOORE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CALIO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROLLINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SMITH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	YEUTTER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	FINDLAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	KAUFMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
			MCGROARTY		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please provide comments on the attached directly to David Demarest, 2ndF1, WW, x7620, with a copy to this office ASAP, TODAY, FRIDAY, MAY 1. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

CLOSE HOLD

PHILLIP D. BRADY Assistant to the President and Staff Secretary Ext. 2702

Thought my heart was at to those who felt betrayed by a system of justice that seemed to have gone wrong. Since from the reaction of a frustrated and misguided mob.

2 MAY P2:33

(DDDMAF)
May 1, 1992
Draft One
LA

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS ON CIVIL DISORDER IN LOS ANGELES
MAY 1, 1992
9:00 PM

Two days ago, in a highly publicized and controversial court case, a verdict was handed down by a duly appointed jury. What followed in the city of Los Angeles was a tragic series of events including the 1,500 fires, staggering property damage, thousands of arrests and injuries, and the senseless deaths of over thirty people.

An innocent, chosen at random,
A random truck driver was pulled out of his cab in broad daylight. He was punched, kicked -- beaten to the point of unconsciousness, robbed, and left to bleed in the street. The brutality we saw on our television sets was as sickening as it was terrifying.

What is going on now in Los Angeles is not about civil rights. It is not about the great cause of equality that all Americans must uphold. It is not a message of protest. It is now the barbarism of a mob -- pure and simple.

And what is going on in L.A. must and will stop. Order will be restored to the streets of Los Angeles.

In a civilized society, there can be no excuse -- no excuse -- for the murder, arson, theft, and vandalism that have terrorized the law-abiding citizens of East Los Angeles.

The wanton destruction of life and property is not a legitimate expression of outrage with injustice -- it is itself

Need analysis of jury verdict

(A)

injustice. And no rationalization, no matter how heart-felt, no matter how eloquent, can make it otherwise.

To Americans of all races who were shocked by the verdict, let me say this. I spoke this morning to many leaders of the civil rights community. They saw the video of Rodney King being beaten by the police, as did the rest of us. For fourteen months, they waited. Patiently. Hopefully. They waited for the system to work. When the verdict came in, they felt betrayed.

We all felt it hard to comprehend how the verdict could possibly square with the video. Those civil rights leaders were stunned. So was I. So was Barbara. So were my kids. But those ashamed and angered by this outcome must understand: our system of justice provides for the peaceful, orderly means of addressing this frustration. There is a difference between frustration with the law and direct assaults upon it.

There are two very different issues at hand. One is the question of whether the civil rights of Rodney King were violated. So let me tell you what actions we are taking on the federal level to ensure that justice is served.



The verdict Wednesday was not the end of the process. Within one hour of the verdict, the Justice Department launched into high gear its own federal criminal investigation into the King case.

On Thursday Associate Attorney General Wayne Budd was immediately dispatched to Los Angeles with five federal civil rights division prosecutors. I have great confidence in our

Justice Department's ability to ^{has demonstrated} fully investigate a matter like this. In the last _____ the Justice Department has successfully prosecuted _____ of police violence cases. *I'm confident that, in this case, the Department of Justice will act as it should.*

The federal effort in this case will be swift -- and it will be fair. It will not be driven by mob violence, but by respect for due process and the rule of law.

We owe it to all Americans who put their faith in the law to see that justice is served. But as we move forward on this or any other case, we must remember the fundamental tenet of our legal system: every American is entitled to his ^{or her} rights.

 Beyond the question of civil rights, there is the urgent need to restore order.  In the wake of the first night's violence, I spoke directly with California Pete Wilson, and Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley -- to assess the situation, and to offer assistance.

~~[[Examples of federal assistance to L.A. community]]~~

Right now, there are [1400] National Guardsmen on duty in the City of Los Angeles. Another [1200] stand ready to provide immediate support.

Today, to supplement this effort to restore order, I've taken several additional actions. First, I have ordered the Justice Department to dispatch [1000] Federal riot-trained law enforcement officials to help restore order in Los Angeles -- beginning tonight. These officials include SWAT teams and riot police, members of the Border Patrol and Bureau of Prisons and the U.S. Marshall Service.

Second, another [750] Federal Law Enforcement officials are on stand by alert should they be needed.

Third, I have authorized [4000] members of the 8th Infantry to stand by at Fort Ord, California. In the event they are needed, they are available for duty this evening as well. And in the event these troops are sent in, I am prepared to Federalize the National Guard.

We have seen images in the last 72 hours that we will never forget. Some were horrifying almost beyond belief. But there were other acts -- small, but significant acts in all this ugliness that give us hope: People who have spent each night not in the streets, but in the churches of east Los Angeles -- praying that man's gentler instincts be revealed in the hearts of people driven by hate. Citizens who ignored the mob -- who at great personal danger, helped the victims of violence -- regardless of race.

Among the many stories I've seen and heard about these past few days, one sticks in my mind. The story of one savagely beaten white truck driver -- alive tonight because four strangers, four black strangers, came to his aid. Two were men who had been watching the beating live on television, who came out into the street to help if they could. One was a woman on here way home from work -- the fourth, a young man whose name we may never know. Together, those four people braved the mob and drove that truck driver to the hospital. He is alive today -- only because they stepped in to help.

It is for every one of them that we must rebuild the community of Los Angeles -- for these four people and the others like them who in the midst of this nightmare acted with simple human decency.

For their sake, for all our sakes: We must build a future where in every city across this country, empty rage gives way to hope -- where poverty and despair give way to opportunity. We must keep on working to create a climate of understanding and tolerance. We must not tolerate racism, bigotry, anti-semitism, and hate of any kind, anytime, anywhere. ~~Not over the dinner table. Not in the boardroom. Not in the playground. Nowhere.~~

This Sunday, I ask all Americans to lend their hearts and their voices to the healing of hatred -- ~~to a new harmony between the races.~~

Tonight, let me say to the people sickened by the spectacle of the past few days -- to the good people of East Los Angeles, caught at the center of this senseless terror: The violence will end. Calm will return. Justice will be served.

Thank you, and God bless the United States of America.

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America has promised ^{fundamental} ~~its~~ fairness. ———— [D. James Vickers of America]

McGroarty
4/30/92 11 a.m.

PROPOSED TELEPHONE CALL TO COLUMBUS SCHOOL

I know you're having a great event -- and I wanted to take this opportunity, even if only by telephone, to take part in the celebration in some way.

Let me just say a few words about why I couldn't join you today. / Last night, as many of you may know from talking to your Moms and Dads, or from seeing it on TV, there was serious violence in Los Angeles. Buildings were burned. People were hurt. Some were killed. It started because people there were angry about a very controversial court decision. What happened was a great tragedy, not just for Los Angeles, but for this country -- and I decided I needed to change my plans, stay at the White House this morning to take some urgent actions before coming to Columbus.

I think we can all understand the anger people in Los Angeles felt -- but we can't stand by and watch the violence. We can't stand by and watch people hurt one another. When something is wrong -- when one person is hurt or harmed -- we cannot use it as a reason to do wrong ourselves. When we give in to that kind of anger -- once we start, there's no place to stop.

Let me make another point: Not everyone was involved in what happened last night. I know that sometimes it may not look that way when we see the reports on television. But many, many people -- far more than took place in the street riots -- overcame their anger, obeyed the law, and refused to be a part of the violence in the streets. There were people who helped some

of the victims of violence -- black people who came to the aid of whites. There were fire-fighters -- black, white and Hispanic - - who worked together to do their job, worked all night to put out fires before more innocent people were hurt. There were people who gathered at churches across Los Angeles to pray together -- to help each other understand what was happening.

So when you talk about what happened with your parents or your friends -- think of those people. Maybe you've heard your parents or your teachers say -- in America, there should be no place for discrimination. What they means is this: In America there should be no place for hate -- just because someone is different from you. ///

Again, let me say I am sorry I can't be there with you today. But let me say hello to my good friend, everybody's favorite Kindergarten Cop -- Arnold Schwarzenegger. Congratulations, Arnold, on completing your 50 state tour -- and I look forward to hearing all about your time today at Bluffsview when you join me tomorrow at the White House for the Great American Workout.

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moment, we really did. And German unification, which for so long seemed so far away, so distant, was but one of the German miracles we've seen in our lifetimes.

There is, of course, Germany's legendary economic miracle. But I'm thinking of something else, your country's moral revival, of the patience and spirit of reconciliation that it took to create a climate of cooperation in a Europe burdened with bitterness.

Just as Germany has transcended and triumphed over its past, so has the German-American relationship shed the burdens that were history's legacy. United Germany, champion of a more united Europe, now stands as our partner in leadership. Together, we have achieved our common goal of a Germany united in peace and freedom. But our partnership did not end with that. To the contrary, now that we are free of the dangers and divisions of Europe's cold war confrontation, the German-American partnership has really just begun.

The world around us has changed almost beyond recognition. And we cannot know precisely where these revolutionary changes will take us. But this we do know: Our principles have not changed, for they have been proven right. And we are confident, for our shared values and unity of purpose have guided us through our past and will continue to guide us in our future.

Barbara and I speak proudly for this country when we call on everyone here to celebrate the promise our relationship holds. It's a relationship that this city, led by the Kennedy Center, whose Mr. Jim Wolfensohn is with us tonight, is commemorating with an unprecedented salute to 300 years of German culture, a festival under our joint patronage.

Now, in that spirit of cultural excellence, we have a present for you. There's a slogan in America, and it's particularly appropriate during a political year: If you want a friend, get a dog. [Laughter] And so in the spirit of enduring friendship, we'll give you the translation—the German translation. And I will now read it to you:

[At this point, President Bush read the German translation of "Millie's Book as Dictated to Barbara Bush" which he presented to President von Weizsäcker.]

And may I suggest that we all raise our glasses: To unity, to freedom, to the new Germany. And to the long life and good health of our honored friend, President von Weizsäcker, and his wife, Mrs. von Weizsäcker. To your health, sir, and to the great friendship between Germany and the United States.

Note: The President spoke at 8:30 p.m. in the State Dining Room at the White House.

Statement on the Verdict in the Los Angeles Police Trial April 30, 1992

Yesterday's verdict in the Los Angeles police case has left us all with a deep sense of personal frustration and anguish. Yet it is important that we respect the law and the legal processes that have been brought to bear in this case. Today Los Angeles faces the aftermath of a terrible night of violence in which several people have lost their lives. Yet out of this rage we must find tolerance for each other and adherence to the rule of law that protects the lives and property of everyone. I call upon all citizens to be calm and to abide by the law as the legal process in this case continues. The civil rights of all Americans demand this respect.

I am meeting this morning with the Attorney General of the United States to consider this matter. We will work with Governor Wilson, Mayor Bradley, and others to ensure that all appropriate steps will be taken to maintain law and order and to ensure that the legal process proceeds with due deliberation.

Remarks on Civil Disturbances in Los Angeles, California April 30, 1992

A tragic series of events have occurred in Los Angeles that include frustration over a verdict, the wanton destruction of property, and the senseless death of several citizens in the last few hours. I urge all Americans to

approach this situation with grace, and with the respect all individuals under the Co

The United States Department of Justice will continue its criminal investigation of the police violence case in Los Angeles. I am confident that the civil rights laws of the United States will be fully and equally applied. The Department of Justice has been monitoring the case from its inception, and as is customary in such kinds of situations, the Department moved last night to acceleration that it started several m

I have just met with the Attorney General of the United States to consider the Government's legal course of action. We should review any other forms of action that the State of California and the city of Los Angeles. I am confident that matters this morning with Mayor Tom Bradley and other members of my administration. I am concerned about any question of police violence, and we are also concerned about excessive pub

The murder and destruction of Los Angeles last night has been stopped. Lootings, beatings, and violence against innocent victims have been stopped. Society cannot tolerate this behavior.

There are some principles of behavior that should be respected in these circumstances. First, we must respect for our legal system and the rule of law. Second, we must expect a police force that is professional and behaves in a responsible manner. Third, in the American context, there is no room for bigotry and racism. We have responsibilities as a democracy.

I want everyone to know that the Government will continue to take its responsibilities in this case.

Thank you very much.

Note: The President spoke in the Briefing Room at the W

approach this situation with calm, with tolerance, and with the respect for the rights of all individuals under the Constitution.

The United States Department of Justice will continue its criminal investigation of the police violence case in Los Angeles to ensure that the civil rights laws of our Nation are fully and equally applied. The Department of Justice has been monitoring this case since its inception, and as is customary in these kinds of situations, the Justice Department moved last night to accelerate the investigation that it started several months ago.

I have just met with the Attorney General of the United States to consider the Federal Government's legal course at this point and to review any other forms of assistance that we should provide the State of California and the city of Los Angeles. I also discussed these matters this morning with Governor Wilson and Mayor Tom Bradley and with other senior members of my administration. We are concerned about any question of excessive police violence, and we are equally concerned about excessive public violence.

The murder and destruction in the streets of Los Angeles last night and today must be stopped. Lootings, beatings, and random violence against innocent victims must be condemned. Society cannot tolerate this kind of behavior.

There are some principles of law and of behavior that should be repeated in these circumstances. First, we must maintain a respect for our legal system and a demand for law and order. Second, we have a right to expect a police force that protects our citizens and behaves in a responsible manner. Third, in the American conscience there is no room for bigotry and racism. And fourth, we have responsibilities as citizens of this democracy.

I want everyone to know that the Federal Government will continue to pursue its legal responsibilities in this case.

Thank you very much.

Note: The President spoke at 12:05 p.m. in the Briefing Room at the White House.

Executive Order 12803— Infrastructure Privatization

April 30, 1992

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, and in order to ensure that the United States achieves the most beneficial economic use of its resources, it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1. Definitions. For purposes of this order: (a) "Privatization" means the disposition or transfer of an infrastructure asset, such as by sale or by long-term lease, from a State or local government to a private party.

(b) "Infrastructure asset" means any asset financed in whole or in part by the Federal Government and needed for the functioning of the economy. Examples of such assets include, but are not limited to: roads, tunnels, bridges, electricity supply facilities, mass transit, rail transportation, airports, ports, waterways, water supply facilities, recycling and wastewater treatment facilities, solid waste disposal facilities, housing, schools, prisons, and hospitals.

(c) "Originally authorized purposes" means the general objectives of the original grant program; however, the term is not intended to include every condition required for a grantee to have obtained the original grant.

(d) "Transfer price" means: (i) the amount paid or to be paid by a private party for an infrastructure asset, if the asset is transferred as a result of competitive bidding; or (ii) the appraised value of an infrastructure asset, as determined by the head of the executive department or agency and the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, if the asset is not transferred as a result of competitive bidding.

(e) "State and local governments" means the government of any State of the United States, the District of Columbia, any commonwealth, territory, or possession of the United States, and any county, municipality, city, town, township, local public authority, school district, special district, intrastate district, regional or interstate governmental entity, council of governments, and any agency