

# FOIA MARKER

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**Collection/Record Group:** Clinton Presidential Records  
**Subgroup/Office of Origin:** Records Management - SUBJECT FILE  
**Series/Staff Member:**  
**Subseries:**

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**OA/ID Number:** 23353  
**Scan ID:** 314514  
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**Folder Title:**  
JL003

|               |             |                 |               |                  |
|---------------|-------------|-----------------|---------------|------------------|
| <b>Stack:</b> | <b>Row:</b> | <b>Section:</b> | <b>Shelf:</b> | <b>Position:</b> |
| <b>S</b>      | <b>85</b>   | <b>3</b>        | <b>7</b>      | <b>1</b>         |

pp.  
314514  
JL003

August 5, 1999

Ms. Jasmine Jorgensen  
Littleton, Colorado

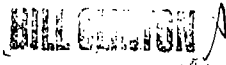
Dear Jasmine:

Thank you for your kind note and your prayers. It meant a lot to me to meet with those who have been touched by the tragedy at Columbine, and while words cannot ease your pain over the loss of Cassie, I want you to know that you and your family remain in our thoughts and prayers.

In response to the tragic events at Columbine, my Administration launched a national grassroots campaign to prevent youth violence. Several religious leaders have agreed to participate in this effort, which will examine, among other issues, the role of religion in public schools. Like you, I am a strong proponent of religious freedom and expression. Nothing in our Constitution requires schools to be faith-free zones, where children must leave their religion at the schoolhouse door. Last year, my Administration issued comprehensive guidelines to clarify what kind of religious activity is and must be permissible in public schools. According to our laws, students have the right to pray privately and individually at school. They have the right to meet in religious groups on school grounds and to use school facilities, just as any other club. They also have the right to read the Bible or any religious text during study hall or free class time.

The tragedy at Columbine shocked and saddened the American people, and you can be assured that I am doing all that I can to prevent such a tragedy from ever happening again. May God bless you and your family.

Sincerely,

  
BILL CLINTON

BC/MMW/SMH/DWB/ckb-lynn (Corres. #4378908)  
(8.jorgensen.j)

cc: W. Wondwossen, 97 OEOB

SENT c/o  
Mr. and Mrs. Bradley Bernall  
6323 South Saulsbury Court  
Littleton, Colorado 80123

990806



Address?

DRAFT OF BC LETTER

DDA 7124

INITIALS: BC / wmw / *got 7/29*

DOCUMENT TITLE: /slr/p/jorgensen.j.wmw

DRAFT DATE / LETTER DATE: Jul 09 1999 /

CORRESPONDENCE #: 4378908

CLEAR WITH:

WHCC:

CC: W. Wondwossen, 97  
N. Sharma, 97

CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESSED TO:

Ms. Jasmine Jorgensen *c/o Mr. and Mrs. Bradley Bernal*  
6323 South Saulsbury Court  
Littleton, Colorado 80123

APPROVAL/ENCLOSURES/SPECIAL INSTR:

Cleared by Eddie Coriea in Counsel's office 6/15.  
Cleared by Maureen Shea, 6/17.

Dear Jasmine:

Thank you for your kind note and your prayers. ~~It meant a lot to me to meet with those who have been~~ *those who have been* ~~other families touched by the tragedy at Columbine~~ *and* ~~and~~ *you and* ~~while I know my words cannot ease your pain but I want you to know that your family are remains in my thoughts and prayers over the loss of Cassie,~~

In response to the tragic events at Columbine, my Administration launched a national grass roots campaign to prevent youth violence. Several religious leaders have agreed to participate in this effort, which will examine, among other issues, the role of religion in public schools. Like you, I am a strong proponent of religious freedom and expression. Nothing in our Constitution requires schools to be faith-free zones, where children must leave their religion at the schoolhouse door. Last year, my Administration issued comprehensive guidelines to clarify what kind of religious activity is and must be permissible in public schools. According to our laws, students have the right to pray privately and individually at school. They have the right to meet in religious groups on school grounds and to use school facilities, just as any other club. They also have the right to read the Bible or any religious text during study hall or free class time.

~~Out of the crisis at Columbine, our nation has witnessed the profound~~

JUL 29 1999

~~strength and vulnerability of the human spirit. I assure you that we  
will always cherish the memories of those who lost their lives and  
continue working to learn all we can from this horrible incident.~~

~~Hillary and I send you our best.~~

The tragedy at Columbine shocked and saddened the American people, but no one has experienced what you and the other families who lost loved ones have had to endure. You can be assured that I am doing all that I can to prevent such a tragedy from ever happening again.

May God bless you and your family.

COPY

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 13, 1999

Mr. and Mrs. Bradley Bernall  
6323 South Saulsbury Court  
Littleton, Colorado 80123

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Bernall:

Hillary and I were deeply saddened about your daughter's death. We know our words cannot ease the pain you are feeling, but we wanted you to know that you are in our thoughts and prayers. We know how dearly you loved Cassie and understand, if only in our worst fears, the horror of what has happened in your lives.

All Americans share your grief. Such senseless violence and hatred hurt each of us, though few have had to endure its effects as personally as you have. We pray that God's grace will sustain you during this terrible time and that the loving support of your family, friends, and the entire Littleton community will bring you comfort and strength in the days ahead.

Sincerely,

*Bill Clinton*

What about 6/24  
The all-mel  
amendment?  
See comment = 0017

990517

—

Dear President Clinton:

We thank you & Hillis  
for coming.

Please get God back  
into our country. Separation of  
Church & state is not in the  
Constitution, as I understand  
it, but in a letter Thomas  
Jefferson wrote. Only God  
can take the hate out of  
the hearts of men.

It should not be a crime  
for a teacher to tell a lost  
kid that God loves him & to  
have a Bible available to that  
child.

—  
Thank you for listening.

I pray for you & your family.

Sincerely,

Jasmine Jernigan  
Cassie Bernal's

Grandmother

Please don't let people  
forget Littleton to keep  
it from happening again.

Dear President Clinton:

We thank you & Hillary  
for coming.

Please get God back

Delia - Jasmine is grandmother  
of Cassie - W.W. said she couldn't  
find address for her - I tried  
on Internet & couldn't find  
anything either - Jo Bernalls ok?  
Fine

the hearts of men.

It should not be a crime  
for a teacher to tell a lost  
kid that God loves him & to  
have a Bible available to that  
child.



Thank you for listening.  
I pray for you & your family.

Sincerely,  
Jasmine Jorgensen  
Cassie Bernal  
Grandmother

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forget Littleton to keep  
it from happening again.