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January 23, 1998

Mr. R. E. Panosh Assistant District Attorney P. O. Box 10769 Greensboro, NC 27404

Re: Ronnie Kimble - Motion Hearings

Dear Mr. Panosh:

Some weeks ago you scheduled a meeting with defense counsel in the Kimble cases to establish a firm date for trial of these matters. After you received scheduling input from everyone, you simply ignored what you were told by the defense lawyers and arbitrarily scheduled the cases for March 2. Although we have known for weeks that Judge Freeman would not be available to hear pending motions on January 26, 1998, you have done nothing to resolve the question of how these motions could be heard in a timely fashion until now.

In my personal opinion, Ronnie Kimble's Motion to Sever is fully justified by the facts and it is a matter of the highest importance to have that motion heard as soon as possible. Accordingly, I personally would request that you either consent to the Motion to Sever or let Judge Beale decide it forthwith. This is only my personal opinion and I am willing to defer to the other defense lawyers if they do not agree with me on this point.

Very truly yours,

John B. Hatfield, Jr.

JBHjr/ph

cc: David Lloyd Bob McClellan John Bryson