

who have been delinquent on their farm loans for years. Resolving these cases will return resources to taxpayers and provide additional opportunities for beginning farmers.

Because the Attorney General has overall responsibility for the conduct of litigation by the United States, I have directed the Departments of Justice and Agriculture to work together to implement this authority.

William J. Clinton

The White House
May 11, 1994.

NOTE: This statement was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on May 12. S. 1930, approved May 11, was assigned Public Law No. 103-248.

Memorandum on Use of Private Attorneys by the Department of Agriculture

May 11, 1994

Memorandum for the Secretary of Agriculture, the Attorney General

This directive sets forth the terms and conditions under which the Department of Agriculture will exercise the authority granted to the Secretary of Agriculture pursuant to section 331(c) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1981). That authority permits the Secretary of Agriculture to contract with private attorneys and use Department of Agriculture attorneys for legal services necessary to prosecute and defend any claims arising under subsection (b)(5) of section 331 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1981), concerning farmer program loans made by the Farmers Home Administration.

This directive permits, subject to the conditions set forth below, foreclosure, deficiency judgment, and debt collection litigation by private contract attorneys arising from Farmers Home Administration farmer program loans and loan guarantees made pursuant to the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, 7 U.S.C. 1921 *et seq.* (hereinafter referred to as "actions"). The Department of Agriculture will refer all other matters arising under the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, including

all matters in bankruptcy, claims of fraud, and appellate proceedings to the Department of Justice. The Department of Justice will prosecute such referrals expeditiously, and may, in its discretion, with the Department of Agriculture's concurrence, refer any action back to the Department of Agriculture.

The Department of Agriculture agrees that the decision to contract with private attorneys for prosecution of actions will be made only upon its determination that (a) the private attorney will provide competent and cost-effective legal representation and (b) representation by the private attorney will accelerate or improve the process by which the actions are brought to conclusion.

Thirty days prior to initiating the process to contract with a private attorney for prosecution of actions, the Department of Agriculture will inform the appropriate United States Attorney of the intent to contract and the basis for such decision.

Prior to referral by the Department of Agriculture of any action to a private attorney, or Department of Agriculture attorney, the Department of Agriculture shall notify the Department of Justice. The Department of Agriculture shall require that the private counsel or Department of Agriculture attorney promptly provide to the appropriate United States Attorney copies of all significant pleadings, motions, memoranda, orders, and opinions filed in State or Federal court.

Should any legal or policy issue of general importance to the Government arise that pertains to the conduct of actions under this agreement, the Department of Agriculture will ensure that the private contract attorneys or Department of Agriculture attorneys are made aware of guidance issued by the Department of Justice.

If the Department of Justice determines that the interests of the Government are better served through representation by the Department of Justice because there exist any significant factors, such as counterclaims, claims for equitable relief, multiple Federal agency interests, or significant legal or factual issues, of major importance to the Government, the Department of Agriculture will promptly withdraw the action from private counsel or the Department of Agriculture at-

torney and refer the action to the Department of Justice, for expeditious disposition. The Department of Agriculture will reserve the right to withdraw any case from the control of a private attorney.

The Department of Agriculture will fulfill its obligations under this directive through its Office of General Counsel. The Department of Justice will fulfill its obligations under this directive through the Civil Division or such other office as the Attorney General may direct.

The Department of Agriculture will provide to the Department of Justice a quarterly report tracking the status of all actions within the scope of this directive being pursued by the Department of Agriculture attorneys and private contract attorneys, including summary statistics to permit evaluation of this directive.

The Department of Justice will provide to the Department of Agriculture a quarterly report tracking the status of all actions within the scope of this directive being pursued by the Department of Justice, including summary statistics to permit evaluation of this directive.

William J. Clinton

NOTE: This memorandum was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on May 12.

Teleconference on Community Policing Grants and an Exchange With Reporters

May 12, 1994

The President. Mayor Archer.

Mayor Dennis Archer. Mr. President, how are you, sir?

The President. Mayor Peters.

Mayor Mike Peters. Yes, how are you?

The President. Mayor Darrah.

Mayor Joan Darrah. Yes, President.

The President. And Mayor Campbell.

Mayor Bill Campbell. Hello, Mr. President, how are you?

The President. I'm fine. I'm here with the Attorney General, who's also on another phone right here with me.

Attorney General Janet Reno. Good morning.

The President. We want to congratulate all of you for working so hard to make your communities safer. I'm proud to announce today, as all of you know, that the four of you, along with the leaders of 142 other cities, counties, and towns all across this country, will get a downpayment on this administration's pledge to put another 100,000 police officers on the street.

I want to specifically note some Members of Congress who are not on the phone call but whose districts have winners: Congressman John Lewis, Congresswoman Barbara-Rose Collins, Congressman John Conyers, and Congresswoman Barbara Kennelly, all of whom have worked closely with us on this initiative.

The Justice Department received applications from nearly 3,000 communities in every State and territory for these community policing grants and awarded them now to more than 200 cities and towns. It's obvious that communities all across the country are coming to the conclusion that if they have more police officers on the street who are properly trained and properly deployed, we can drive the crime rate down and make our people safer. That is at the heart of this administration's crime bill and has been at the heart of our strategy from the beginning. When I ran for President, I pledged to do my best to break gridlock and pass the most sweeping, effective, and comprehensive crime bill in history and that that bill would include 100,000 new police officers.

Now, the bills have passed both the House and the Senate; they're going to conference—especially with the courageous passage of the assault weapons ban by the House last week. I think you can feel comfortable that all those officers are on the way. This program, as I said, is our downpayment. And we're very encouraged about it.

The American people have waited for this bill long enough. And I do want to take this opportunity in talking with you to say that it is imperative that we not let politics any more delay for one day the passage of this crime bill. We have got to get the House and the Senate together and go through with it. And I want to urge you, even as we celebrate your winning these awards for these