

The original documents are located in Box 13, folder “Waggoner, Joe” of the Richard B. Cheney Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 17, 1976

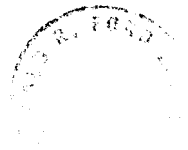


MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: MAX FRIEDERSDORF *M.F.*

SUBJECT: Joe Waggoner

Congressman Waggoner issued the attached statement today in reference to published allegations made against him in the NEW YORK POST.



I was called last night by reporters of the New York Post and Scripps Howard newspapers and asked if they could come to my office and talk to me about an allegation involving me. I replied that they could.

They did come to my office and said an allegation had been made that on January 20 of this year I was involved and entrapped in Washington for soliciting a decoy policewoman. I replied I was not. I did say that their date was wrong, but that sometime in February, I did not remember when, there was an effort-- I now realize--to entrap me. A woman tried to entice me. She failed. An unmarked car attempted to pull alongside my car and block it in. This caused me to believe I was going to be assaulted and robbed. It frightened me, as it would anyone; and I accelerated my car and fled the scene. The car was driven by a black plain clothes policeman who later identified himself and expressed understanding of my actions. I was pursued by this unmarked car and was stopped by a marked car. I was questioned, and I told them what happened. I had accelerated, which caused them to give chase, simply because the unmarked car had frightened me. I did go to the police station where I related what had happened. The police were satisfied. I was told that no action was warranted and none would be taken. It was considered a closed matter. I thanked the police for their understanding and left. I did not inquire, but I was advised that no report would be made because none was warranted. I asked for no special consideration and was treated courteously at all times by the police.

Prostitution is rampant in Washington. Everyone knows that. I have been approached on dozens and dozens of occasions all over town by prostitutes and have never yielded to their overtures or temptations. It is an almost daily occurrence. I never will be so foolish.

I have broken no laws. The allegation is just that. It is an allegation, and it is not true.

In talking to the reporters who asked me about the allegation, I made it clear I was not asking them for anything in the way of special consideration. They were very courteous.

The anguish and pain hurt, but I can live with the hurt and I can live with my conscience because my conscience is clear. I'm sure my family first and also my friends will understand.

Except for the events of recent weeks and the attitude of the times we live in, this allegation would never even be considered. It is a closed matter.