

01
9

WILMER, CUTLER & PICKERING

1666 K STREET, N.W.

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20006

CABLE ADDRESS: WICRING WASH., D. C.

INTERNATIONAL TELEX: 440-239

TELEX: 89-2402

TELEPHONE 202 872-6000

EUROPEAN OFFICE

5, CHEAPSIDE

LONDON, EC2V 6AA, ENGLAND

TELEPHONE 01-236-2401

TELEX: 851 883242

CABLE ADDRESS: WICRING LONDON

RICHARD H. WILMER (1892-1976)

LLOYD N. CUTLER
JOHN H. PICKERING
MANUEL F. COHEN
HUGH R. H. SMITH
LOUIS F. OBERDORFER
J. ROGER WOLLENBERG
CHARLES C. GLOVER, III
MARSHALL HORNBLOWER
HENRY T. RATHBUN
REUBEN CLARK
SAMUEL J. LANAHAN
WILLIAM R. PERLIK
SAMUEL A. STERN
ARNOLD M. LERMAN
ROBERT P. STRANAHAN, JR.
MAX O. TRUITT, JR.
JOEL ROSENBLUM
HOWARD P. WILLEMS
ANDREW T. A. MACDONALD
ROBERT A. HAMMOND, III
DANIEL K. MAYERS
TIMOTHY B. DYK

DAVID R. ANDERSON
J. RODERICK HELLER, III
ARTHUR F. MATHEWS
JAMES S. CAMPBELL
DENNIS M. FLANNERY
DANIEL MARCUS
JAMES ROBERTSON
RAYMOND C. CLEVINGER, III
LOUIS R. COHEN
MICHAEL R. KLEIN
STEPHEN A. WEISSWASSER
TIMOTHY N. BLACK
SALLY KATZEN
F. DAVID LAKE, JR.
PAUL J. MODE, JR.
STEPHEN F. BLACK
C. BOYDEN GRAY
RONALD J. GREENE
JAY F. LAPIN
DEANNE C. SIEMER
GARY D. WILSON

EZEKIEL G. STODDARD
GERARD C. SMITH
COUNSEL

RICHARD A. ALLEN
PETER D. BEWLEY
STEWART A. BLOCK
LACKLAND H. BLOOM, JR.
MICHAEL L. BURACK
RICHARD W. CASS
WILHELMINA REUBEN COOKE
MICHELE B. CORASH
MARY CAROLYN COX
PATRICIA D. DOUGLASS
S. ALLEN EARLY, III
JAMES R. FARRAND
NANCY C. GARRISON
NEAL M. GOLDBERG
CORNELIUS J. GOLDEN, JR.
FRANCES M. GREEN
ROBERT C. HACKER
ALLEN H. HARRISON, JR.
JOHN H. HARWOOD II
MICHAEL S. HELFER
A. STEPHEN HUT, JR.
C. LORING JETTON, JR.
DAVID R. JOHNSON

NEIL J. KING
WILLIAM J. KOLASKY, JR.
JOHN H. KORNS
WILLIAM T. LAKE
ELWYN C. LEE
CARY B. LERMAN
ROBERT B. MCCAW
MARY A. McREYNOLDS
A. DOUGLAS MELAMED
ROBERT R. MORRIS
WILLIAM J. PERLSTEIN
PHILLIP I. RADOFF
RENÉ TOWNSEND ROBINSON
JOHN ROUNSAVILLE, JR.
MICHAEL S. SCHOOLER
GAIL F. SCHULZ
KAREN KOSER SCHWARTZ
THEODORE S. SIMS
MARIANNE K. SMYTHE
DOUGLAS G. THOMPSON, JR.
ALAN S. WEITZ
ROBERT G. WILSON
WALTER T. WINSLOW, JR.
ROGER M. WITTEN

April 20, 1976

Professor Frank P. Grad
315 Central Park West
New York, N. Y. 10025

Dear Professor Grad:

On March 24, 1976 the President signed a joint resolution approving a Covenant between the United States and the Northern Mariana Islands under which the Northern Marianas will become a self-governing commonwealth upon termination of the current United Nations Trusteeship. The President's approval triggers a transitional planning period of approximately eighteen months during which the Northern Marianas, with United States Funding and technical assistance will prepare to assume the increasing responsibilities associated with self-government. Under the Covenant the Northern Marianas have the right for the first time to draft their own constitution and a convention for this purpose is currently scheduled for about August of this year.

This firm has been retained to assist the Northern Marianas in connection with the Constitutional Convention. We recognize that there is much to be done in too little time and that there is a considerable body of experience which should be drawn upon in connection with this assignment. It is in this regard that I am writing you, both because Dr. Wheeler recommended that I do so and because I am generally familiar with some of your work in this field.

Dr. Wheeler has been kind enough to arrange to meet with me and my colleagues in Washington on Tuesday and Wednesday,

May 4 and 5, to discuss various subjects associated with the proposed Constitutional Convention. We have available, of course, many of the publications of the National Municipal League dealing with the mechanics and substance of State constitutional conventions. If you have any time available on either May 4 or 5, it would be of great assistance if you could meet with us and give us some guidance regarding the preliminary work which you think should be undertaken in connection with the convention and the staffing of the convention. We are prepared to cover your expenses and compensate you for your time at your normal consulting fee.

I recognize that this is short notice for such an invitation and that your academic and other commitments may preclude you from joining us on these dates. If these dates are inconvenient, perhaps you can give me a ring and we can discuss some alternative ways of taking advantage of your experience in this field. I would particularly appreciate any suggestions you might have regarding experienced professionals (other than lawyers) who might be available to consult with us during the next few months and perhaps participate in the convention itself.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Howard P. Willens