JUNE 1976
June 7, 1976

Mr. Morton Newburgh
1005 East 60th Street
Room 624
Chicago, Illinois 60637

Dear Mr. Newburgh:

Thank you for your letter of May 14, 1976, which has recently come to my attention.

We very much appreciate both your concern for the City of New York, and your desire to volunteer your time during the coming summer. As you may know, the staff of the Municipal Assistance Corporation itself is quite small. Our projected summer workload would not justify your time, even on a voluntary basis.

However, I am enclosing for your information a June 1st notice, which indicates that the New York City Corporation Counsel is now actively seeking law students to volunteer as interns in the City Law Department for the summer. You can obtain additional information from the Council of New York Law Associates, which published the announcement, at (212) 972-9370. Given your strong interest in working for the future of New York City, I hope that this provides a useful lead for you.

Sincerely,

[signature]

Stephen J. Weinstein
Counsel
Dear Mr. Giddings,

I have just spoken to Mr. Holdt who suggested I contact you. I originally spoke to Mr. Holdt in March concerning volunteering my services for the summer, after being referred to him by Erika Teutsch of the Governor’s Office.

As a native New Yorker I am concerned about the city of my origins, and have felt increasingly frustrated over my inability to help the city in any meaningful way. I am hoping that this summer will enable me to channel my frustration into action.

I recognize that the Municipal Assistance Corporation staff works under serious time constraints, but I promise that if you accept me you will not regret having done so. I do not require someone to "hold my hand," and am willing to work extra hours to compensate for my lack of experience and expertise.

This will not be the first time that I have had to work on my own. I have done a great deal of public interest work, and all of it was without constant supervision. At New York-Public Interest Research Group I was employed on the "Legislative Overview Project," a project involving profiles of all the New York state legislators. My job required extensive interviewing and researching.

During the summer of 1974 I worked at the Human Resources Administration, Department of Community Development Evaluation as an Urban Corps Management Intern. In the course of my ten week internship I undertook an overview of the New York City welfare system and an intensive study of the fair hearings procedure. Although my supervisor, Donna Kirschheimer, was there to answer any questions I might have had, it was up to me to familiarize myself with the income maintenance system. After completing my study of the system, I developed a fair hearings informational project that involved my visiting all the functional Human Resources Districts.

Growing up in New York City, one cannot help but be aware of the problems facing our society. Helping to solve such problems was a crucial motivating factor in my attending law school. As such, law school has been a great disappointment to me. Having always viewed law as a practical tool, I am suddenly faced with law on the level of abstract principles. It is my intention to get summer jobs that will provide more meaningful experiences than those of law school, and I expect that by working for your office I can do constructive work while at the same time gaining knowledge of urban government from a new vantage point. I repeat my promise

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that I am willing to do any extra work involved. Although I do not have the expertise of some, this is more than compensated for by my willingness to work and my love of New York. I know a great deal about the city and have a sense of its problems and assets. Perhaps I could work for you on a trial basis. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Morton Newburgh