



5501 Cleveland Ave.
Kansas City, Mo. 64130

April 4, 2009

President Barack Obama
White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20502

Dear Honorable Mr. President,

I hope this letter finds you in robust health and vigorously enforcing provisions of your oath that I proudly witness you take from my seat in section yellow 9 at your inauguration on January 20, 2009! I also want to thank you, on behalf of the Emmett Till family and Board of Directors of the Emmett Till Justice Campaign Inc., for your co-sponsorship of the Emmett Till Unsolved Civil Rights Crimes Act (Till Bill) in your recent capacity as the junior U.S. Senator from Illinois.

We were also very happy to see your statement issued, on September 24th, 2008 the day the Senate passed the Till Bill, declaring Congress should prioritize making sure that the Justice Department had both the financial resources, personnel and mandate to search, find and prosecute, where possible, all unsolved civil rights era murders.

Therefore, on this the 41st anniversary of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King JR, we respectfully request that you convene a summit meeting including Attorney General Eric Holder, family members and supporters of the civil rights era murders as swiftly as possible to underscore significantly and emphatically your administration's commitment to solving these murders.

While we are perplexed at Congress's recent inaction at including funds for the Till Bill in the recently passed appropriations for the remainder of fiscal year 2009 we are encouraged by Attorney General Eric Holder's commitment to move money around, if necessary, to fund the provisions of the Till Bill until Congress includes funding during the fiscal year 2010 appropriations for the Justice Department.

Mr. President, people are dying and memories are fading. Time is of the essences! We do not believe that the Till Bill will have the best chance of working if it results only in positions being created and funding provided while waiting for people to come to the office with information. We firmly believe that the best results will come as a result of one this country's most comprehensive criminal manhunts being conducted in history! We need Attorney General Eric Holder and yourself to declare that this will happen in order to effectively create a justice-seeking atmosphere around solving these cases! I believe that the greatest impact will occur if the summit meeting is held either at the White House, the Civil Rights Memorial in Montgomery, Al., or the King Center in Atlanta, Ga. or the hometown of Emmett Till, Chicago, IL. Finally, we look forward to the convening of the summit meeting during the remaining first 100 days of your administration.

Sincerely in the pursuit of truth and justice,
I am

Alvin Sykes
President

Emmett Till Justice Campaign Inc.

CC: US Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid
US Senator Claire McCaskill
US Senator Chris Dodd
US Senator Patrick Leahy
US Senator Tom Colburn
US Senator Lamar Alexander

US Congressman John Lewis
US Congressman Dennis Moore
US Congressman Emanuel Cleaver
US Congressman John Conyers
US Congressman Hank Johnson