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Frederick D. Baron
Special Assistant to the Attorney General
John M. Harmon
Assistant Attorney General
Office of Legal Counsel
FBI Domestic Security Investigations

Your memorandum of August 17, 1978, requested our views on the legality and propriety of the Attorney General delegating to the Deputy Attorney General responsibility for approving domestic security investigations under the existing Attorney General Guidelines.

Mary Lawton, Ken Bass and I have reviewed your proposal. We believe such a delegation would be lawful and appropriate at this time, especially in light of the re-orientation of domestic security cases to focus on criminal activities.

Your draft delegation seems proper. However, we believe it would be useful to note in the delegation that the existing Attorney General Guidelines will remain in effect, subject to future amendments approved by the Attorney General.