

March 8, 1965

Honorable Sargent Shriver
Director
Office of Economic Opportunity

Dear Sarge:

After considerable thought, I have decided to accept the Attorney General's invitation to take on the responsibilities of First Assistant in the Civil Rights Division.

The decision was most difficult, for the past 11 months here have provided the best job and the most challenging experience of my career. I have enjoyed an excellent working relationship with Don Baker and feel that we have built a strong and capable law office.

The Civil Rights job is but another part of the war to open opportunity. It presents a special challenge to me personally and as an attorney because it offers the chance to participate directly in the development of the law in this field which is so sensitive and so central to the United States. In addition, it offers unlimited scope for creative trial and appellate advocacy and a chance to administer a large and complex legal staff.

The participation in the creation of OEO under your leadership has been a thrilling experience. Thank you for asking me to join the staff. I have enjoyed the work immensely.

Although this means the end of my formal tie to OEO, I hope that informally we will meet frequently and that you will call upon me professionally often, either for poverty

or civil rights problems. My personal commitment to the OEO programs will continue. I would like to think that another formal association with you is in the cards.

When considering this job, you said, "Come along, there will be lots of tough problems but it will be fun." It's been all of that.

Sincerely,