Extent

33 folders, 726 pages

Summary

This collection consists of records related to the December 2000 temporary reprieve of the execution of convicted drug-trafficker and murderer, Juan Raul Garza. It contains memoranda, briefing papers, news clippings, notes, presentations, press reports, statements, and talking points. These records come from the White House Staff and Office files of the Counsel’s Office and the Clerk's Office.

Scope and Content Note

The materials in FOIA 2015-0833-F are a selective body of documents responsive to the topic of the FOIA. Researchers should consult the archivist about related material. FOIA 2015-0833-F contains records related to President Clinton’s December 2000 issuance of a temporary reprieve of the execution of convicted drug kingpin and murderer Juan Raul Garza. In 1993, Juan Raul Garza was convicted of murdering three people while running a marijuana smuggling and distribution operation based in Brownsville, Texas. He was sentenced to death by a jury of his peers in the U.S. District Court in the Southern District of Texas. Mr. Garza’s lawyers immediately appealed his death sentence. Mr. Garza also appealed to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, an independent human rights organization of the Organization of American States (OAS). The OAS made a formal request to President Clinton on behalf of Mr. Garza, asking that his sentence be commuted to life imprisonment. By November of 1996, all of Mr. Garza’s appeals had 2015-0833-F http://www.clintonlibrary.gov - 2 – failed, and an execution date was set for August 2000; however, the Department of Justice (DOJ) was scheduled to release the preliminary results of an extensive study on racial disparities in federal death penalty cases in September 2000. In light of this impending report, Mr. Garza was granted a reprieve of four months until December 2000 so that the results of the DOJ

study could be known. This initial September 2000 report was deemed by Attorney General Reno to be incomplete, and a further investigation was conducted with the direction that the results be reported to the President by April 30th , 2001. As a result of the continuance of the DOJ report, President Clinton issued a second temporary reprieve of Mr. Garza's execution in December 2000. This reprieve lasted until June 2001. The full DOJ report was completed on time and Mr. Garza was executed by lethal injection at the Federal Correctional Complex in Terre Haute, Indiana on June 19th, 2001. 2015-0833-F consists of memoranda, briefing papers, news clippings, notes, presentations, press reports, statements, and talking points. This material was located in the Staff and Office files of Counsel's Office, Meredith Cabe, Bruce Lindsey, Beth Nolan and Emily Karcher, and in the General Files of the Clerk's office.

Record Type

Textual

System of Arrangement

Records that were responsive to this FOIA request were found in one collection area—Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files. Staff and Office Files were maintained at the folder level by staff members within their individual offices and document all levels of administration activity. Staff and Office Files are processed at the folder level, that is, individual documents are not selected and removed from a folder for processing. While this method maintains folder integrity, it frequently results in the incidental processing of documents that are not wholly responsive to the subject area.

Access

Collection is open to all researchers. Access to Clinton Presidential Records is governed by the Presidential Records Act (PRA) (44 U.S.C. Chapter 22, as amended) and the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (5 U.S.C. 552, as amended) and therefore records may be restricted in whole or in part in accordance with legal exemptions.

Copyright

Documents in this collection that were prepared by officials of the United States government as part of their official duties are in the public domain. Researchers are advised to consult the copyright law of the United States (17 U.S.C. Chapter 1) which governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material.

Provenance

Official records of William Jefferson Clinton’s presidency are housed at the Clinton Presidential Library and administered by the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) under the provisions of the Presidential Records Act (PRA).

Processed by

Staff Archivist, 2015. Previously restricted materials are added as they are released.

Container List

The following is a list of documents and folders processed in response to 2015-0833-F:
Box 1
Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files
Clerk’s Office
General Files
[Executive Clemency for Juan Raul Garza] [OA/ID 20376]
[Memos for the President, June – Aug. 2000 – Belize, Medal of Valor, Clemency, Mid-East, Cyprus, Death Penalty & Iraq]: [Reprieve Garza][OA/ID 20372]
Counsel’s Office
Cabe, Meredith
Death Penalty / Moratorium Advocacy – Hatch Ltr. [Letter] Re: Garza Reprieve [OA/ID 23497]

DOJ [Department of Justice] Binder – Garza Case [1] [OA/ID 23497]
DOJ [Department of Justice] Binder – Garza Case [2] [OA/ID 23497]
Garza [OA/ID 23497]
Garza Clemency Petition [OA/ID 23497]
Garza: Correspondence with Atty [Attorney] [OA/ID 23497]
Garza: DOJ [Department of Justice] Recommendation December 2000 [OA/ID 23497]
Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files (continued)
Counsel's Office
Cabe, Meredith
Garza: Execution Date – Judge Vela [OA/ID 23497]
Garza: Historical Research [OA/ID 23497]
Garza: Inter-American Cmsn [Commission] on Human Rts. [Rights] [OA/ID 23497]
Garza: OAS [Organization of American States] – Inter-American Cmsn [Commission] on
Human Rts. [Rights] [OA/ID 23497]
Garza: POTUS Memoranda [OA/ID 23497]
Garza: POTUS Statement December 7, 2000 [OA/ID 23497]
Garza: Press [OA/ID 23497]
Garza Press [OA/ID 24948]
Garza: Reprieve Release and Q&A, August 2000 [OA/ID 23497]
Garza: Reprieve Warrant August 2000 [OA/ID 23497]
Garza: Reprieve Warrant December 2000 [OA/ID 23497]
[Index of Exhibits to Memorandum in Support of Petition for Clemency for Juan Raul Garza] [loose] [1] [OA/ID 23497]
[Index of Exhibits to Memorandum in Support of Petition for Clemency for Juan Raul Garza] [loose] [2] [OA/ID 23497]
[Index of Exhibits to Memorandum in Support of Petition for Clemency for Juan Raul Garza] [loose] [3] [OA/ID 23497]
[Index of Exhibits to Memorandum in Support of Petition for Clemency for Juan Raul Garza] [loose] [4] [OA/ID 23497]
[Video: Juan Raul Garza Memorandum in Support of Petition for Clemency Exhibit 40] [loose] [OA/ID 23497]
Lindsey, Bruce
Juan Garza [1] [OA/ID 20651]
Juan Garza [2] [OA/ID 20651]
Juan Garza [3] [OA/ID 20651]
[Requestors D – M]: Pardons / Clemency Requests Juan Garza [OA/ID 21523]

Nolan, Beth; Karcher, Emily
Garza [1] [OA/ID 24958]
Garza [2] [OA/ID 24958]
Garza [3] [OA/ID 24958]
Garza [4] [OA/ID 24958]