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DATE DUE _____
ASSIGNED _____
FILING INST: Rice
Let Sherr

December 6, 1972

Commissioner John F. Nichols
Detroit Police Department
1300 Beaubien St., 3rd Floor
Detroit, Michigan 48226

Re: Rev. Leroy Cannon And Family
3577 W. Outer Drive
Detroit, Michigan

Dear Sir:

I would like to call to your attention a recent incident involving the above family and Officers from your Stress Units and the 12th Pct. This letter is directed to your attention, personally, because past complaints to the Citizens Complaint Bureau have failed to yield any reasonable results.

At about 4:30 A.M., December 4, 1972, 15-20 Detroit Police Officers broke in the front door, rear door and side door of the Cannon home, without an arrest or search warrant. Rev. Cannon heard the noise from his upstairs bedroom and ran downstairs to see what was wrong. He was met on the stairs by a Stress Officer who placed the barrel of a pistol on Rev. Cannon's nose, cocked the hammer of the gun and said, "Nigger if you breathe loud I'll blow your brains out". Rev. Cannon had to plead for his life. I'm sure that you can imagine what would have happened to this innocent citizen had he made his investigation of the trouble downstairs with his pistol in his hand.

Other Officers went into bedrooms and made the wife and seventeen year old daughter come downstairs in their under clothing. One Officer placed his gun to the temple of the daughter. The thirteen year old son was ordered to spread eagle against the wall with his hands stretched upwards. When he lowered his hands, he was threatened by an Officer. Many threats of death were made by the Officers.

Two house guests, Claude E. Clark and Kenneth Wilson were roughed up and pistols placed on each of their heads. Claude Clark was accused of being one of

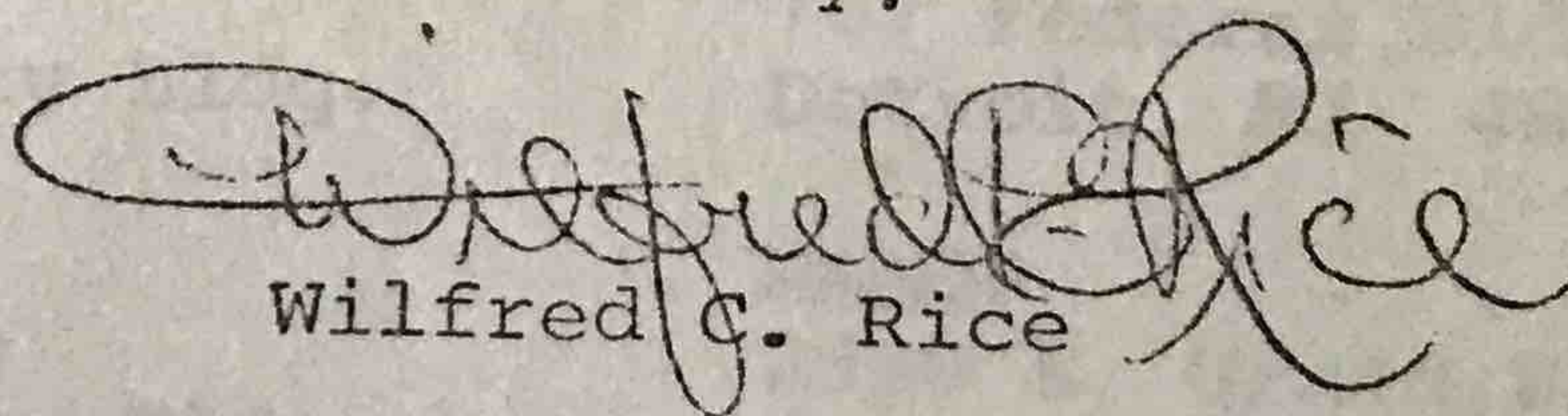
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the men involved in the Stress shoot out, and was arrested. His prints were taken and he was held until 11:15 A.M.

When I called No. 12th Pct., 1st Pct., and Homicide about Mr. Clark, I was shifted from place to place. Finally, No. 12 said he was just brought in there at 6:45 A.M. I drove there at 7:05, they said he had been taken to Homicide Bureau one (1) hour before. Homicide said they did not have him and I finally found him on the 9th Floor of Police Headquarters at 8:30 A.M. I served a Writ of Habeas Corpus at 9:50 A.M., and the Police released Mr. Clark at 11:15 A.M. without honoring the Writ.

I am requesting that your office investigate this matter, forthwith, and make the appropriate amends for the misconduct of your Officers.

Yours truly,


Wilfred C. Rice

WCR/mm