

United States District Court
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA
TAMPA, FLORIDA 33601-2908

WM. TERRELL HODGES
CHIEF JUDGE

March 22, 1985

POST OFFICE BOX 2908

Mr. Robert A. Hester, Field Office Manager
Office of Public Buildings and Real Property
General Services Administration, Region 4
500 Zack Street, Room 733
Tampa, FL 33602

RECEIVED
MAR 23 1985
GSA TAMPA FIELD OFFICE

Dear Mr. Hester:

Thank you for favoring me with a copy of the letter dated March 20, 1985 addressed to you by the Executive Director of the Hillsborough Area Regional Transit Authority. This concerns, of course, our ongoing problem with the intolerable congestion on the sidewalk brought about by the bus stops in front of this building since the time we reopened the Florida Avenue entrance as the only means of access to Court facilities.

I suppose that our authority to insist upon relocation of the bus stops - - or the question whether we should exercise any such authority under present circumstances - - is a matter which might be the subject of debate; but there can be no question whatever concerning our authority (and our present obligation) to direct that the Authority immediately remove the stanchions, umbrellas and benches obstructing the sidewalk.

Accordingly, please tell the Transit Authority that it has forty (40) days to remove those obstructions. If they are not removed within that time the Judges of this Court have authorized me to order the Marshal to remove them instanter - - and that is precisely what I intend to do.

Hopefully, the relief afforded by the removal of those obstructions will be sufficient to reduce the present congestion to tolerable limits during the limited period of time required for the Transit Authority to build its new terminal facility. If it does not afford significant relief - - and if the safety and security of jurors and others attempting to enter and leave the Courthouse continues to be impaired and endangered - - we will then consider the entry of an order concerning the bus stops themselves.

Thank you once again for your continuing assistance.

Very truly yours,



Wm. Terrell Hodges

cc: Tampa Division Judges
Mr. George Perryman, GSA
Marshal Richard L. Cox, Jr.,
Cliff Hayden, Hartline