

Recommendations (P) Public Health Service  
Spaan, Mr. John

January 6, 1967

Mr. John Spaan, Chief  
Construction and Maintenance Branch  
Indian Health Area Office  
301 Post Office and Court House Building  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Dear Mr. Spaan:

Congressman Albert has received the enclosed interim reply from Mr. Henry H. Wilson, Jr., at the White House regarding your application for Executive Officer of the Division of Indian Health.

You recall we also contacted Mr. Macy of the Civil Service Commission, Secretary Gardner, and Dr. Rebeau in the Congressman's name. As we receive further reports, we will continue to be in touch with you. I know that Congressman Albert will be glad for us to try to help you in working this out. We'll pursue every avenue we know of in your behalf.

Sincerely,

Charles L. Ward,  
Administrative Assistant

CLW/hn  
Enclosure

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

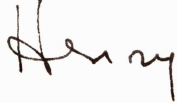
January 5, 1966

Dear Carl:

I have your letter of January 4th concerning the interest of Mr. John Spaan in becoming Executive Officer of the Oklahoma City area office of the Division of Indian Health, Public Health Service, Department of Health, Education & Welfare.

I will be happy to look into this immediately, and I will expect to be back with you about it shortly.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Henry", written in a cursive style.

Henry H. Wilson, Jr.  
Administrative Assistant  
to the President

The Honorable Carl Albert  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C.

January 4, 1967

Mr. John Spann, Chief  
Construction and Maintenance Branch  
Indian Health Area Office  
301 Post Office and Court House Building  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Dear Mr. Spann:

Thank you very much for your letter of December 31 advising Congressman Albert of your desire for promotion to the Executive Officer position of the Oklahoma City area office of the Division of Indian Health.

Although the Congressman is not back in the office yet, we know he would want us to do everything we possibly can in your behalf. We have, therefore, written letters of recommendation to the White House, Secretary Gardner, Dr. Rabeau and the Civil Service Commission, as you suggested.

We appreciate the fine work you have done in the area office and are pleased to recommend you.

Our very best wishes for the New Year.

Sincerely,

Charles L. Ward  
Administrative Assistant

CLW/nu

Public Health Service

January 4, 1967

The Honorable John W. Macy, Jr., Chairman  
Civil Service Commission  
1900 E Street  
Washington, D. C. 20415

Dear Mr. Macy:

We understand that the Executive Officer of the Oklahoma City Area Office of the Division of Indian Health, Public Health Service, Department of Health, Education and Welfare, has retired.

We would like to recommend as his successor Mr. John Spaan, Chief of the Construction and Maintenance Branch in the Oklahoma City Area office. It is our understanding he holds the ranking grade under the executive officer and has served in the Oklahoma City office for 10 years.

I have observed Mr. Spaan's work through the years and have been impressed with his loyalty, his efficiency and his dedication to duty. We feel he would make an excellent officer and we are pleased to recommend him for consideration.

Sincerely,

CARL ALBERT, M.C.  
Third District, Oklahoma

CA/wmu



January 4, 1967

Dr. E. S. Rabeau  
Assistant Surgeon General and  
Chief of the Division of Indian Health  
Public Health Service  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

Dear Dr. Rabeau:

We understand that the Executive Officer of the Oklahoma City Area Office of the Division of Indian Health, Public Health Service, Department of Health, Education and Welfare, has retired.

We would like to recommend as his successor Mr. John Spaan, Chief of the Construction and Maintenance Branch in the Oklahoma City Area office. It is our understanding he holds the ranking grade under the executive officer and has served in the Oklahoma City office for 10 years.

I have observed Mr. Spaan's work through the years and have been impressed with his loyalty, his efficiency and his dedication to duty. We feel he would make an excellent officer and we are pleased to recommend him for consideration.

Sincerely,

CARL ALBERT, M.C.  
Third District, Oklahoma

CA/wmu

Pending

January 4, 1967

The Honorable Henry Hall Wilson, Jr.  
Administrative Assistant to The President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. Wilson:

We understand that the Executive Officer of the Oklahoma City Area Office of the Division of Indian Health, Public Health Service, Department of Health, Education and Welfare, has retired.

We would like to recommend as his successor Mr. John Spaan, Chief of the Construction and Maintenance Branch in the Oklahoma City Area office. It is our understanding he holds the ranking grade under the executive officer and has served in the Oklahoma City office for 10 years.

I have observed Mr. Spaan's work through the years and have been impressed with his loyalty, his efficiency and his dedication to duty. We feel he would make an excellent officer and we are pleased to recommend him for consideration.

Sincerely,

CARL ALBERT, M.C.  
Third District, Oklahoma

CA/wmu

Same Ltr. to:  
The Hon. John W. Gardner  
Sec'y. of HEW

Dr. E. S. Rabeau  
Asst. Surgeon General & Chief of the Division of Indian Health

The Hon. John W. Macy, Jr., Chairman  
Civil Service Comm.

January 4, 1967

The Honorable John W. Gardner  
Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare  
330 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, D. C. 20201

Dear Mr. Secretary:

We understand that the Executive Officer of the Oklahoma City Area Office of the Division of Indian Health, Public Health Service, Department of Health, Education and Welfare, has retired.

We would like to recommend as his successor Mr. John Spaan, Chief of the Construction and Maintenance Branch in the Oklahoma City Area office. It is our understanding he holds the ranking grade under the executive officer and has served in the Oklahoma City office for 10 years.

I have observed Mr. Spaan's work through the years and have been impressed with his loyalty, his efficiency and his dedication to duty. We feel he would make an excellent officer and we are pleased to recommend him for consideration.

Sincerely,

CARL ALBERT, M.C.  
Third District, Oklahoma

CA/wmu





DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

Indian Health Area Office  
301 Post Office & Court House Bldg.  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

December 31, 1966

Refer to: Constr. & Maint.  
Branch

Repr. Carl Albert  
Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives, Office of the Majority Leader  
Washington, D. C.

Subj: Application for Executive Officer Position, Okla. City Area Office  
Division of Indian Health, public Health Service.

Dear Mr. Albert:

You may know that the Executive Officer, who is one of two men leading the 700 employee Okla. Area Operation, has retired. Assuming civil service procedures are adhered to, it appears that my application should receive serious consideration. (The ranking grade under the present executive officer with 10 years experience with Indians served by the Oklahoma Area Office belongs to me).

My application letter is attached. I call upon your assistance, not just to get the position, but to gain your support in continuing the good work of the past without fear of adding new and vibrant ideas for the future. The Indians deserve our intelligent support. They are a great people. They are an asset to our state. They are capable of contributing more to our state and nation, much more. I believe the PHS Okla. Area has people whose talents are needed in this great cause. Ways must be found to utilize these talents more fully.

I have watched your efforts to improve this program. I believe my occupying this position will provide you an important source of cooperation, dedicated leadership in which to place your confidence for consideration of problems relating to PHS operations. I pledge that you will not have cause to doubt the truthfulness of PHS statements coming from me.

My loyalty to this administration is already known to you. Considering the statements made recently by ranking Okla. PHS officials in our staff meetings, I suggest the President's office be advised of my loyalty. Perhaps some of our mutual friends will speak to you in this regard.

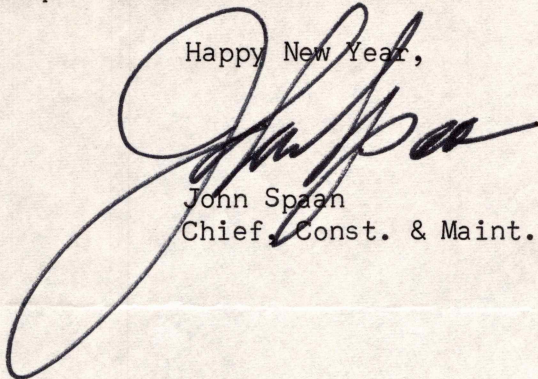
If you agree that it is important that we have an Oklahoman in this position, an Oklahoman with experience in these Oklahoma Operations, you can assist us greatly. You are urged to contact persons who can help achieve this promotion - not by pressure - but by simply following civil service procedures. It is suggested the President's office be advised of our loyalty, the same with HEW Secretary Gardner's office. Dr. E. S. Rabeau, Assist. Surgeon General and Chief of the Division of Indian Health will make the civil service appointment. The Civil Service Commission, Washington D. C., 20415 should also be contacted as I have applied for qualification certification under announcement #167. The local civil service office advises me that I will meet these qualifications.



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With your help, we can achieve the goals described in the attached letter. Without your help, we may fail. Win or lose, be assured of my continued efforts to improve the Oklahoma Area PHS operations.

Happy New Year,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in dark ink, likely belonging to John Spaan, is written over the typed name and title.

John Spaan  
Chief, Const. & Maint. Branch



Personnel Management Branch  
Bureau of Medical Services  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

December 30, 1966

Chief, Area Const. & Maint. Branch  
Oklahoma City Area Office

Application for Executive Officer Position, Oklahoma City Area  
Office, DIH Vacancy Announcement No. 66-48

I have been advised that to submit this application is a "waste of time," that "the position has already been filled."

This information is certainly being disregarded by me. You see, I have faith in the Government of the United States. When I see a vacancy announcement with a closing date of January 14, I know that I can depend on that agency to wait until that date to make their selection and that when such a selection is made, it will be based on management's judgment that it is in the best interest of the Indian people whom we serve. This is certainly going to be true in an agency whose success with their program will depend almost wholly on the "attitudes" of their employees. For as noble as our cause is, people are required to carry out the mission. And these people are going to perform in their job with just about the same measure as the management philosophies which are served them.

I offer my country my humble talents to provide leadership for the tremendous talent now present in the Oklahoma City Area Office. I ask for more than just this job. I seek the support of all who believe in this program, their assistance to continue the good work that has been done in the past, and add new and vibrant ideas for the future.

Together we will seek management philosophies which one trusts and respects, with an absence of restraints limiting individual development, assurance to the individual of recognition, opportunity and fair treatment. Together we will seek an atmosphere in which every employee understands the basic beliefs, purposes and attitudes which breathe life, meaning and understanding into the brick, mortar and equipment that make up our hospitals and clinics. Together we will seek to develop an organization which will lead the parade, which sets the pace in methods and concepts, which keeps its fellow government agencies constantly amazed with its enthusiasm, efforts and results.

I believe in this program. I believe in this administration. I believe in the proposition that the proper management philosophy, when applied to the right people, can cause a man to grow beyond himself, to reach far and move toward goals which previously were only distant visions, to improve



his performance beyond all expectations, to develop an interest and glowing enthusiasm for work and life, far in excess of any previously assumed limitations.

The man who can achieve these ideals will get this position. But men living these ideals will carry out the program.

Your decision will be a wise one because its importance demands such.

Should your judgment dictate the selection of another candidate, advise him of my complete support and enthusiastic assistance in serving the Indian people.

With warm regards,

John H. Spear, III

P.S. I have read U.S. Civil Service Commission Announcement No. 167 and meet the standards.