

## Richard Eugene Hickock inmate case file

### Section 13, Pages 361 - 390

The Kansas State Penitentiary case file on Richard Hickock, inmate number 14746. Hickock and his accomplice, Perry Smith, were convicted of first degree murder for the brutal 1959 killings of Herb and Bonnie Clutter, their daughter, Nancy, and son, Kenyon, in Holcomb, Kansas. The murders inspired the non-fiction novel "In Cold Blood" by Truman Capote. Hickock was executed by hanging on April 14, 1965. Please note that some images have been removed in accordance with K.S.A. 45-221(a)(29) and have been labeled with pages indicating their removal. Additional redactions of personally identifiable information made in accordance with K. S. A. 2005 Supp. 45-221(a)(30).

Creator: Kansas State Penitentiary

Date: 1959 - 1965

Callnumber: State Penitentiary, Inmate Files, Executed Prisoners, Box 2

KSHS Identifier: DaRT ID: 208963

Item Identifier: 208963

[www.kansasmemory.org/item/208963](http://www.kansasmemory.org/item/208963)

KANSAS  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

## Richard Eugene Hickock inmate case file

DEPUTY WARDEN'S OFFICE

NAME: HICKOCK NUMBER: 14746 DATE: 7-11-63

I, THE ABOVE NAMED INMATE, RECEIVED FROM THE DEPUTY WARDEN THE FOLLOWING ARTICLES  
IN GOOD ORDER THIS DATE.

1 BUNDLE OF SKETCHING PAPER. 1 BERLITZ BASIC GERMAN DICTIONARY.

APPROVED BY THE WARDEN: 7-11-63.

CENTRAL PRISON *By Berlin*

SIGNED: Hickock 14746  
(LAST NAME & NUMBER)

## Richard Eugene Hickock inmate case file

*Central File*

**WESTERN UNION**

ESTES PARK, COLORADO

RICHARD EUGENE HICKOCK  
BOX 2, LANSING, KANSAS

VACATIONING. ADVISED OF AUGUST 8 DATE OF EXECUTION. WILL HANDLE DON'T  
WORRY. LETTER FOLLOWS.

SIGNED:  
JOSEPH P. JENKINS

*Chow*

*Richard E. Hickock #14746*

Received at 1:20 p.m. July 2, 1963

## Richard Eugene Hickock inmate case file

**WESTERN UNION**

ESTES PARK, COLORADO

RICHARD EUGENE HICKOCK 14746  
BOX 2, LANSING, KANSAS

VACATIONING. ADVISED OF AUGUST 8 DATE OF EXECUTION. WILL HANDLE DON'T  
WORRY. LETTER FOLLOWS.

**CENTRAL FILE** SIGNED:

JUL 2 1963 JOSEPH P. JENNINS

*JP*  
WARDEN'S OFFICE  
KANSAS STATE PENITENTIARY

Received at 1:20 p.m. July 2, 1963



## Richard Eugene Hickock inmate case file

DEPUTY WARDEN'S OFFICE

NAME: HICKOCK NUMBER 14746 DATE 6-6-63

I, THE ABOVE NAMED INMATE, RECEIVED FROM THE DEPUTY WARDEN THE FOLLOWING ARTICLES  
IN GOOD ORDER THIS DATE.

6 PIECES OF WHITE CHAIR.

APPROVED BY THE WARDEN: 6-6-63.

St Berlin

CENTRAL FILE

SIGNED: Hickock 14746  
(LAST NAME & NUMBER)

## Richard Eugene Hickock inmate case file

DEPUTY WARDEN'S OFFICE

NAME, HICKOCK NUMBER 14746 DATE 6-28-63

I, THE ABOVE NAMED INMATE, RECEIVED FROM THE DEPUTY WARDEN THE FOLLOWING ARTICLES  
IN GOOD ORDER THIS DATE.

1 ROLL SKETCHING PAPER & 1 ROLL PASTEL PAPER FOR PAINTING.

APPROVED BY THE WARDEN: 6-28-63.

Y

CENTRAL FILE

SIGNED: Hickock 14746  
(LAST NAME & NUMBER)

## Richard Eugene Hickock inmate case file

DEPUTY WARDEN'S OFFICE

NAME: HICKOCK NUMBER 14746 DATE 5-14-63

I, THE ABOVE NAMED INMATE, RECEIVED FROM THE DEPUTY WARDEN THE FOLLOWING ARTICLES  
IN GOOD ORDER THIS DATE.

1 5 x 7 Photograph.

APPROVED BY THE WARDEN: 5-14-63.

St Berlin

CENTRAL FILE

SIGNED: Hickock 14746  
(LAST NAME & NUMBER)



## Richard Eugene Hickock inmate case file

DEPUTY WARDEN'S OFFICE

NAME: HICKOCK NUMBER 14746 DATE 5-28-63

I, THE ABOVE NAMED INMATE, RECEIVED FROM THE DEPUTY WARDEN THE FOLLOWING ARTICLES  
IN GOOD ORDER THIS DATE.

1 SKETCH PAD, 1 ~~SKETCH PAD~~, / COLOR STICKS, 1 BIG BOX COLOR STIX.

APPROVED BY THE WARDEN: 5-28-63.

*[Signature]*

CENTRAL FILE

*Richard Hickock*

SIGNED:



## Richard Eugene Hickock inmate case file

DEPUTY WARDEN'S OFFICE

NAME: 14746 HICKOCK NUMBER 14746 DATE 4-17-63

I, THE ABOVE NAMED INMATE, RECEIVED FROM THE DEPUTY WARDEN THE FOLLOWING ARTICLES IN GOOD ORDER THIS DATE.

2 CRAFT TINE STIX, 1 24x36 Sketch Pad, 1 Chamois.

APPROVED BY THE WARDEN: 4-17-63.

Central File  
*St. Berlin*

Signed: Hickock 14746  
(Last Name & Number)

## Richard Eugene Hickock inmate case file

541

DEPUTY WARDEN'S OFFICE

NAME: HICKOCK NUMBER 14746 DATE 3-12-63

I, THE ABOVE NAMED INMATE, RECEIVED FROM THE DEPUTY WARDEN THE FOLLOWING  
ARTICLES IN GOOD ORDER THIS DATE.

48 Pastel Colors. 1 12x18 drawing pad.

APPROVED BY THE WARDEN: 3-12-63.

*St. Berlin*

Centari File

Signed: *Richard Hickock*

## Richard Eugene Hickock inmate case file

DEPUTY WARDEN'S OFFICE

NAME: HICKOCK NUMBER 14746 DATE 2-21-63.

I, THE ABOVE NAMED INMATE, RECEIVED FROM THE DEPUTY WARDEN THE FOLLOWING ARTICLES IN GOOD ORDER THIS DATE.

1 Package of 2 dz. Pastel Pencils.

APPROVED BY THE WARDEN: 2-21-63.

*H. Berlin*

Centari File

Signed: *Richard E. Hickock* 14746

*Red 77*



## Richard Eugene Hickock inmate case file

KSP No. 1

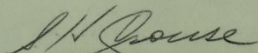
**INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION**  
Kansas State Penitentiary

From Office of: The Warden Date: May 1, 1963

To: Captain of the Guard Subject: Hickock & Smith  
# 14746

**CENTRAL FILE**  
MAY 2 1963  
WARDEN'S OFFICE  
KANSAS STATE PENITENTIARY

Mr. Capot and lady friend will be here approximately 11:00 a.m. They will interview Hickock and Smith in the board room, one at a time. The officer will stay out of the door one hour only for each Hickock and Smith.

  
S. H. Crouse

## Richard Eugene Hickock inmate case file

File

6217 Acadia  
Kansas City, Kans.  
Feb. 10-63

Warden-

Dear Sir- I want to  
thank you for letting me  
visit my son Richard  
Hickock in private. It  
helped me to enjoy my  
visit with him, as I am  
not able to be up very long  
at one time.

Thanks again and God  
Bless you in your work.

Sincerely,  
Eunice Hickock

#14746

WARDEN'S OFFICE  
KANSAS STATE PENITENTIARY  
FEB 12 1963  
CENTRAL FILE



## Richard Eugene Hickock inmate case file

Mr. S. H. Crouse  
Warden's Office

March 30, 1964

Dear Sir:

A friend of mine, Mr. Donald Simone, who is currently assistant City Attorney for Topeka, Kansas, will request permission for a visitation with me in the near future.

Mr. Simone is not on my mailing or visiting list; therefore, I was wondering whether or not he would be allowed to visit. I do not desire to have him processed for visiting, due to the fact that this will probably be his only visit.

If you will inform me as to whether or not you will allow this visitation, I will appreciate it.

Respectfully

Richard E. Hickock 14746

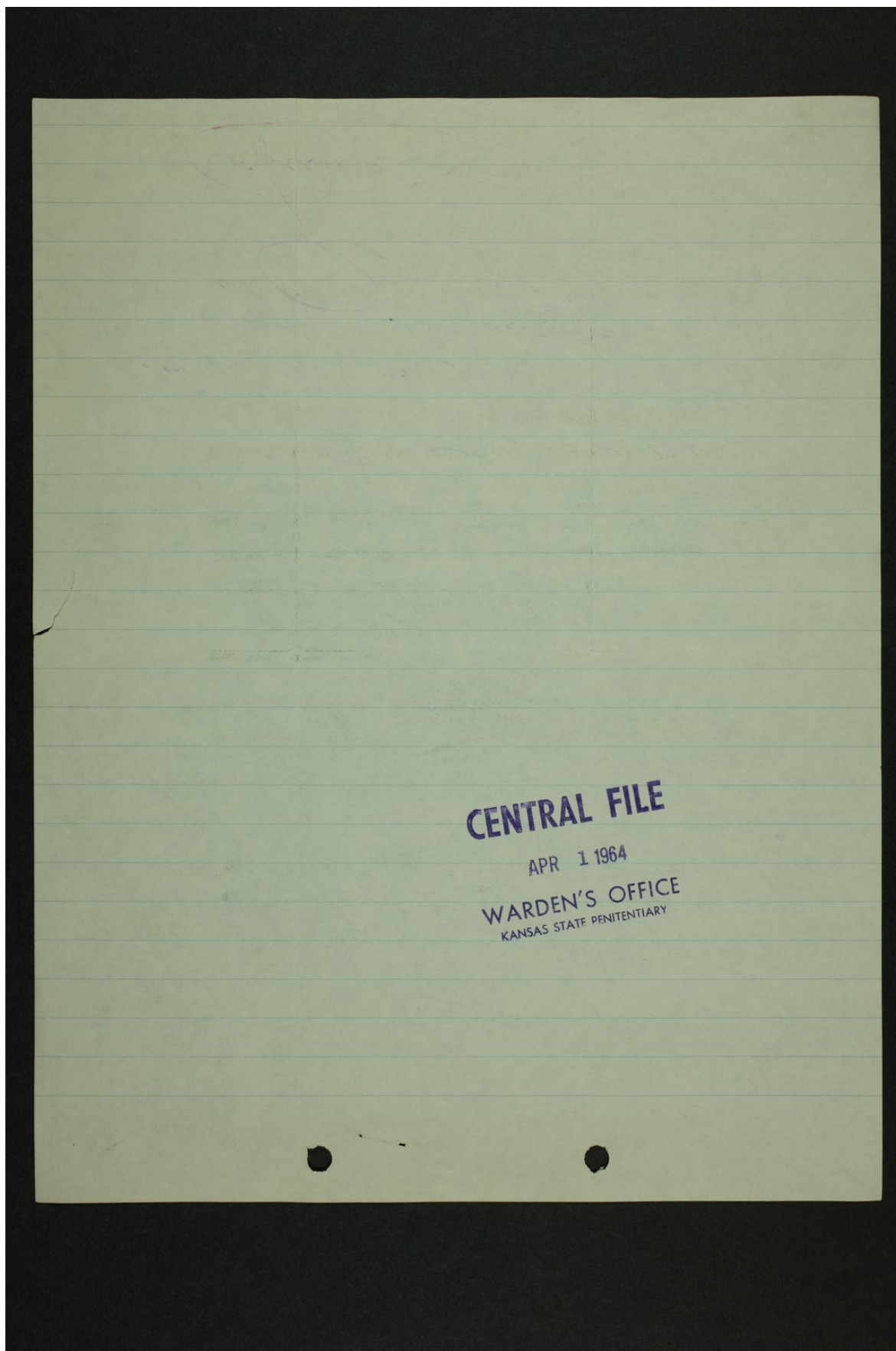
If an attorney comes in  
and wishes to see you  
I will ok on special visit.

S. H. Crouse

approve



## Richard Eugene Hickock inmate case file



## Richard Eugene Hickock inmate case file

KSP No. 1

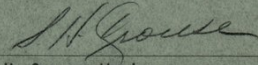
**INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION**  
Kansas State Penitentiary

From Office of: The Warden Date: May 6, 1964

To: # 14746 HICKOCK Subject: Telephone Call

A telephone call was received from Joe Jenkins, Attorney, who wanted to get word to you that he plans to visit you at about 10:00 a.m., Monday, May 11th.

**CENTRAL FILE**  
MAY 6 1964  
WARDEN'S OFFICE  
KANSAS STATE PENITENTIARY

  
S. H. Crouse, Warden

## Richard Eugene Hickock inmate case file

KSP No. 9

*Warden*

KANSAS STATE PENITENTIARY  
Lansing, Kansas

INMATE REQUEST TO STAFF MEMBER

Number *14746*

Name *R. Hickock*

To: *Mr. Horton Deputy Warden* Date: *June 19, 1964*  
(Name and Title of Officer or Department)

State completely but briefly the problem on which you desire assistance. (Be specific.)

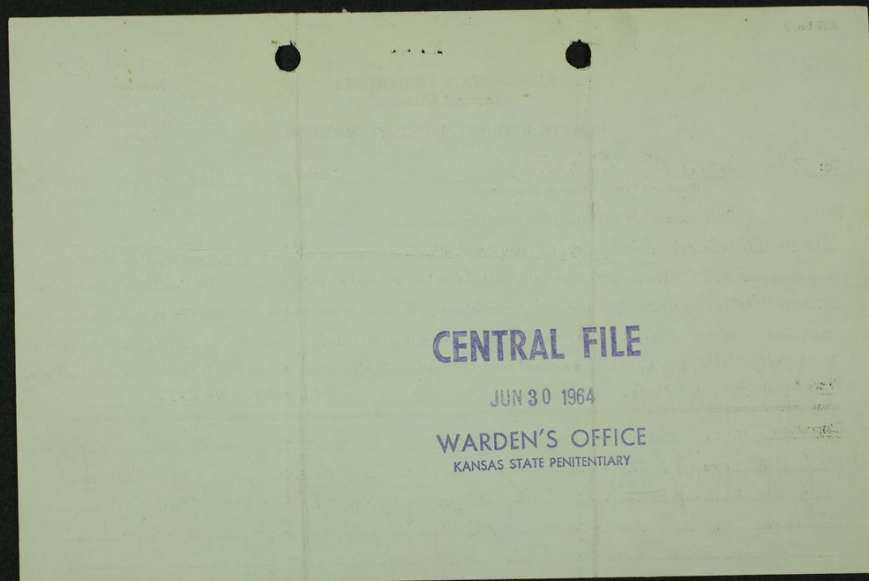
*Sir: Regarding administrative policy, men on death row incarcerated in segregation, are allowed privileges only afforded those in the same proximity (resulting in denial of radio, exercise, etc., etc.). Therefore, due to the present established standard, the releasing of several men to the population causes the application of said policy to apply to men on death row. Would you please advise death row prisoners as to the approximate date they can be expected to be released to the population? If you do not possess this information, please forward form 9 to the Warden. I thank you.*

Work Assignment: *Death Row* Cell Location: *14-S.I.*

Disposition: *you had to dig deep to come up with this one. Early inmate in Seg is considered for release by a committee. When a decision is reached for release and if I concur with committee's decision then the inmate is released. - JH*



## Richard Eugene Hickock inmate case file



## Richard Eugene Hickock inmate case file

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR OF PENAL INSTITUTIONS



STATE OF KANSAS  
1128-S, State Office Building  
TOPEKA

April 8, 1965

Richard D. Hickock  
Box 2  
Lansing, Kansas

RE: KSP # 14,746

Dear Mr. Hickock;

Your recent letter in which you outlined the procedure which has been determined will be followed in your pending application for executive clemency is acknowledged.

You have quite accurately outlined the procedural steps which have been set up in this matter.

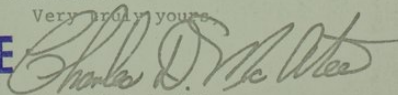
Although normally it is the Board's procedure to see the applicant for executive clemency, along with the Pardon Attorney, during the time which the publications are running, there is therefore no departure from normal procedure herein. A special setting on April 12, has been set up for the Pardon Attorney and the Governor to hear the plea of your counsel. This is based upon an interpretation of the executive clemency statute by the Attorney General which indicates that the Governor cannot grant a commutation of sentence, until the five publications have actually been run. However, there is no requirement pertaining to the publication should be determine to deny such an application. It is my understanding, as I am confident that your counsel has by now pointed out to you, that should sufficient justification and grounds be presented at that hearing, the Governor would then grant the necessary reprieve to allow the legal notice publication to be completed.

Though I can imagine that this move may have caught you by surprise, I am confident that your counsel has done everything that is possible, and is continuing to do so, and further believe that there is little that can be done to alter the administrative determination as to the requirements of the statute.

I trust that your counsel has adequately informed you as to all of the procedures which have transpired and which he contemplates. He has no appeal from the administrative determinations which have been made insofar as the handling of this application is concerned.

Very truly yours,

CENTRAL FILE



CHARLES D. McATEE  
Acting Director

APR 9 1965

CDM:yfl

WARDEN'S OFFICE  
KANSAS STATE PENITENTIARY

## Richard Eugene Hickock inmate case file

KSP No. 1

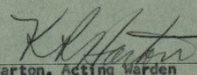
**INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION**  
Kansas State Penitentiary

From Office of: The Warden Date: April 2, 1965

To: # 14746 HICKOCK  
# 14747 SMITH Subject: Telephone Call

Mr. Jenkins, Attorney at Law, called this afternoon. He will be here Saturday afternoon with several documents to be signed. Arrangements have been made to have a notary available.

**CENTRAL FILE**  
APR 2 1965  
**WARDEN'S OFFICE**  
KANSAS STATE PENITENTIARY


  
K. R. Harton, Acting Warden



## Richard Eugene Hickock inmate case file

STATE OF KANSAS  
WILLIAM H. AVERY, Governor

S. H. CROUSE  
Warden  
Area Code: 913 - Parkview 7-3235

  
KANSAS STATE PENITENTIARY  
P. O. Box 2  
Lansing, Kansas 66043

2nd NOTICE

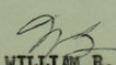
Judge : Bert J. Vance  
County Attorney : Daniel J. High

Dear Sir:

This is to inform you that RICHARD EUGENE HICKOCK, - K.S.P. # 14746  
sentenced 4-4-60 , received 4-5-60  
from Finney County, to a term of TO HANG  
~~XXXXXX~~ for the crime of Murder 1st Degree Four (4) Counts Concurrent.  
will apply to the Governor at his office in Topeka, Kansas, for  
Executive Clemency on date of April 29, 1965.

Complying with the requirements of the law, I am writing, asking  
what recommendations or objections, if any, you have to make in this  
case. Please use this form for your reply.

Respectfully,  
S. H. Crouse, Warden

By:  WILLIAM R. BARKER  
Record Clerk

Note: Make your reply direct to the Governor's Office in Topeka, Kansas  
WRB/ab

(KSP No. 172)

## Richard Eugene Hickock inmate case file

KSP No. 1

**INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION**  
Kansas State Penitentiary

From Office of: The Warden Date: April 1, 1965

To: # 14746 HICKOCK  
# 14747 SMITH Subject: Telephone Call

Mr. Jenkins, Attorney at Law, called this office this morning and requested you both be informed as follows:

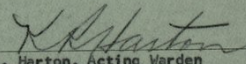
At 2:00 p.m. this afternoon, application for reprieve will be presented to Governor Avery.

Towards the end of the week, Mr. Jenkins expects to be here to have you sign 1507 applications.

**CENTRAL FILE**

APR 1 1965

**WARDEN'S OFFICE**  
KANSAS STATE PENITENTIARY

  
K. R. Horton, Acting Warden

## Richard Eugene Hickock inmate case file

KSP No. 1

**INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION**  
Kansas State Penitentiary

From Office of: E. R. HARTON - Acting Warden Date: March 31, 1965

To: #14746 HICKOCK  
#14747 SMITH Subject: Clemency Hearings

Mr. Henry called today and requested that I inform you the Clemency hearings before the Board will be Tuesday morning, April 6, 1965. Exact time has not been set for the hearings.

CC: Deputy Warden  
Captain of the Guard  
Files (2)

**CENTRAL FILE**

MAR 31 1965

**WARDEN'S OFFICE**  
KANSAS STATE PENITENTIARY

E. R. HARTON  
Acting Warden





## Richard Eugene Hickock inmate case file

KSP No. 177-C

SPECIAL CASE KANSAS STATE PENITENTIARY Lansing, Kansas SPECIAL CASE

### CLEMENCY PROGRESS REPORT

Name: HICKOCK, Richard Eugene Reg. No. 14746 APRIL 196 5 CLEMENCY BOARD

OFFENSE: MURDER 1st, DEGREE 4-COUNTS CONCURRENT

TERM: HANG PLACE: Finney County Kansas

DATE SENTENCED: APRIL 4, 1960 DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 5, 1960

TIME; - MIN: HANG Max: HANG CR (or NET MAX): HANG

TIME SERVED: - 5 YEARS, 0 MONTHS AND 25 DAYS

PRIOR CLEMENCY APPLICATIONS: 2nd. Application for Executive Clemency

LAST DENIED - JULY 28, 1960

NOTE: Subject has advertised in the GARDEN CITY TELEGRAM

NOTE: No other reports are submitted due to the subjects DEATH ROW STATUS

DATE PREPARED:  
March 30, 1965

PREPARED BY:  
William R. Barker  
WILLIAM R. BARKER, Record Clerk

WRB:cek

**CENTRAL FILE**

MAR 30 1965

**CLASSIFICATION**  
KANSAS STATE PENITENTIARY

## Richard Eugene Hickock inmate case file

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR OF PENAL INSTITUTIONS



STATE OF KANSAS  
1128-S, State Office Building  
TOPEKA

March 30, 1965

*B. 7/2/88*

Mr. Kenneth Harton, Acting Warden  
Kansas State Penitentiary  
Box 2  
Lansing, Kansas

ATTENTION: Mr. William R. Barker, Record Clerk

Dear Mr. Harton:

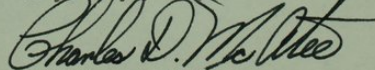
RE: Richard E. Hickock, KSP #14746 ✓  
Perry E. Smith, KSP #14747

*Hickock  
14/7/46*

You are hereby authorized to proceed immediately with legal notice for the above captioned inmates to the official county newspaper of Finney County, Kansas and in such notice to indicate that an application for Executive Clemency will be made to the Governor, in his office, at Topeka, Kansas on April 29, 1965. Such notice to first appear in said newspaper on Wednesday, March 31, 1965. Proper notice should also be given to the trial judge and prosecuting attorney pursuant to K. S. A. 62-2216.

The fact that such notice is being published, or that you in your official capacity as Record Clerk of the Kansas State Penitentiary are mailing such notice in accordance with the routine functions of your office is not, under any circumstance, to be construed, nor is the inference to be drawn therefrom, that a reprieve from the scheduled date of execution, April 14, 1965, will be granted by the Governor of the State of Kansas.

Very truly yours,



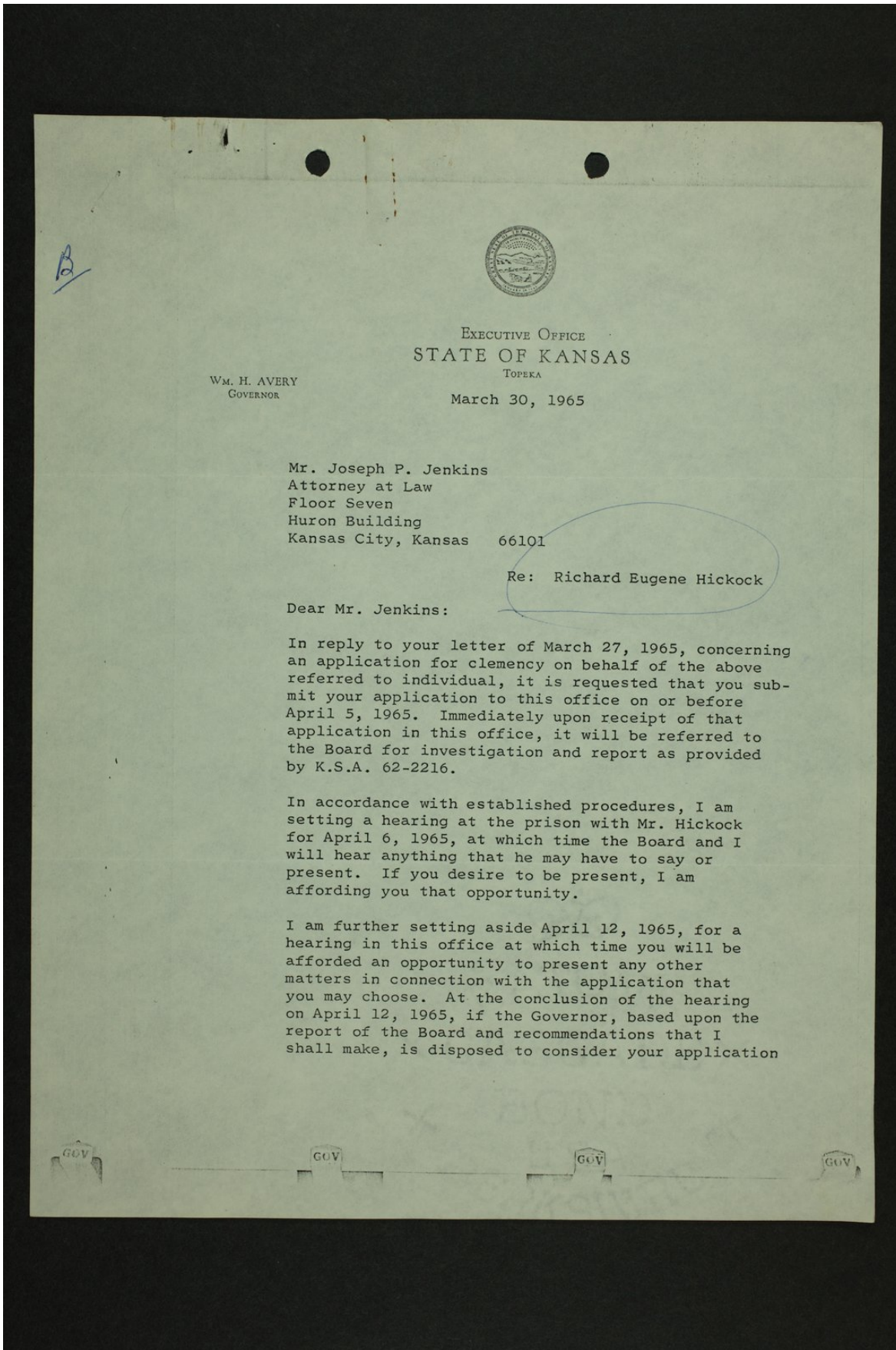
CHARLES D. McATEE  
Acting Director

CDM:dja  
cc Governor William H. Avery

Richard E. Hickock file  
Perry E. Smith file



# Richard Eugene Hickock inmate case file





## Richard Eugene Hickock inmate case file

-2-

favorably, then a reprieve will be granted for a sufficient length of time to permit notice to the trial judge and prosecuting attorney of the county in which the conviction had, together with the required publication of notice.

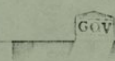
This procedure will grant to your client the privilege of a full clemency hearing together with every opportunity to present all matters, that are pertinent, and material to the application.

Yours truly,

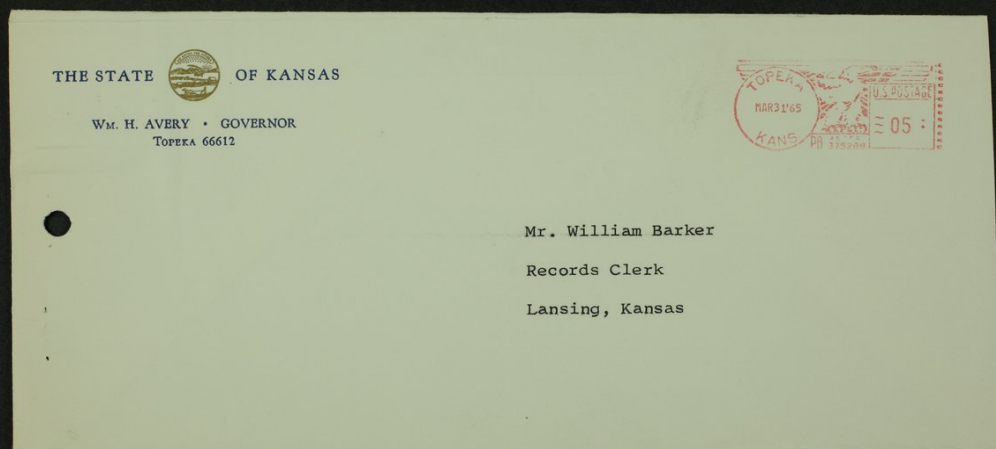
P. A. TOWNSEND  
Pardon Attorney

PAT:jn

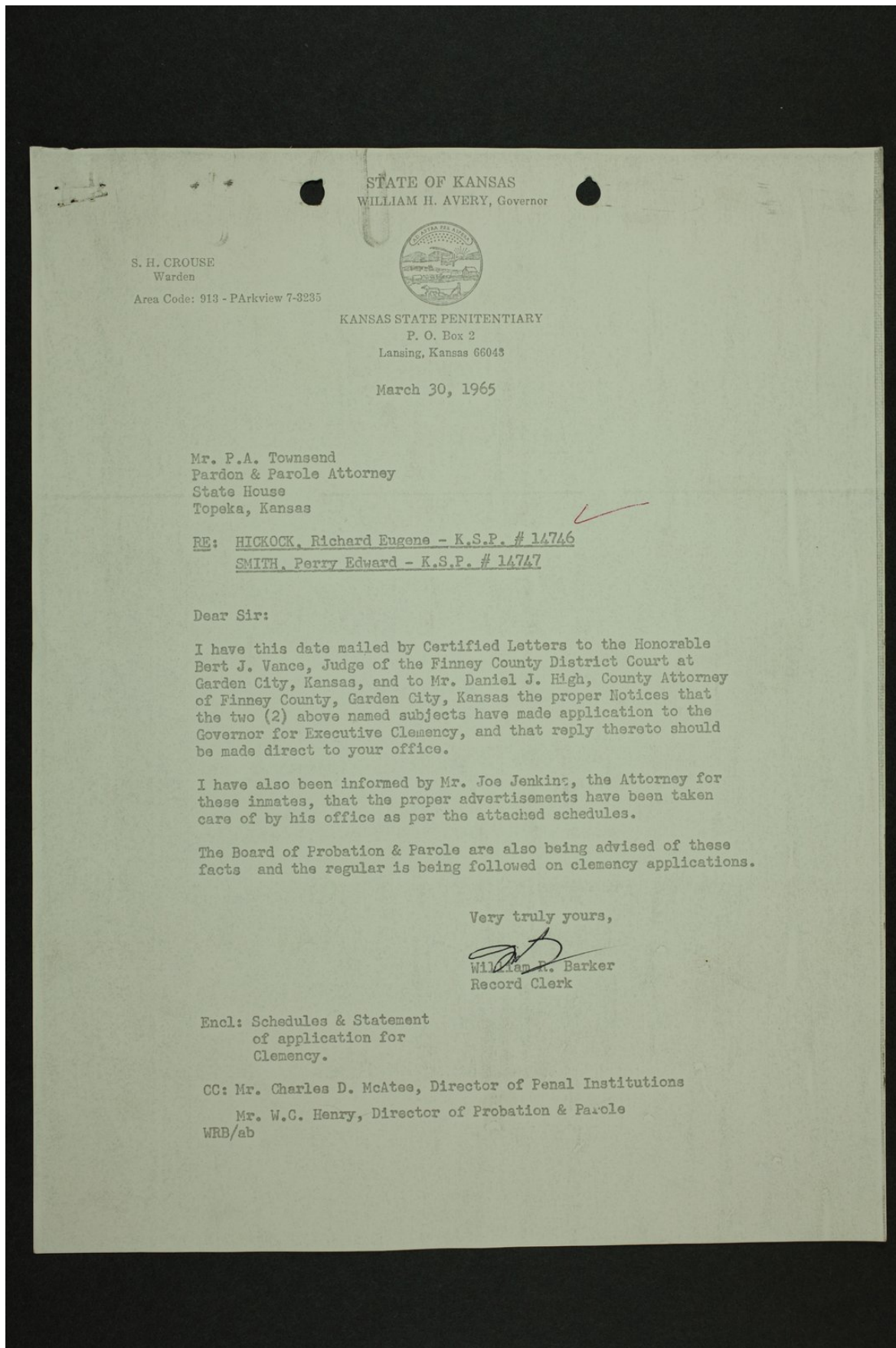
cc: Mr. Richard Eugene Hickock  
Board of Probation and Parol  
Mr. William Barker, Records Clerk



## Richard Eugene Hickock inmate case file



## Richard Eugene Hickock inmate case file





## Richard Eugene Hickock inmate case file

March 29, 1965

Garden City Telegram  
310 North 7th Street  
Garden City, Kansas 67846

Gentlemen:

Enclosed is check in the amount of \$6.23 for the publication of five (5) times the below notice. Please schedule them for one insertion each week with the fifth insertion occurring within seven (7) days of the date which the hearing is to be heard in the Governor's office. After the final publication, we would appreciate you sending affidavit of publication as soon as possible as the petitioner cannot have a hearing until proof of publication is received.

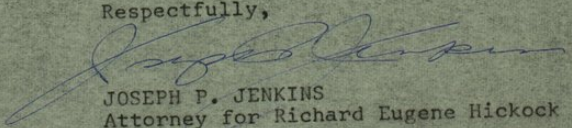
### SCHEDULE OF PUBLICATION

- 1st - Wednesday, March 31, 1965
- 2nd - Wednesday, April 7, 1965
- 3rd - Wednesday, April 14, 1965
- 4th - Wednesday, April 21, 1965
- 5th - Wednesday, April 28, 1965.

You will note that the hearing has been set for April 29, 1965.

Send me tear sheet.

Respectfully,

  
JOSEPH P. JENKINS  
Attorney for Richard Eugene Hickock

JPJ:nh  
Enc.

## Richard Eugene Hickock inmate case file

I, Richard Eugene Hickock, sentenced  
on April the 4th, 1960 for the crime of murder first  
degree four counts concurrent, in Finney County, Kansas,  
will apply in the month of April, 1965, on the 29th  
day thereof for executive clemency, to the Governor,  
at his office in Topeka, Kansas.

Petitioner, Richard Eugene Hickock  
KSP 14746