

December 13, 2004

Records Department
State of Louisiana

Dear Sir or Madame:

My name is Gary Loyd Stewart. I was born Earl Van Dorn Best, Jr. on February 12th 1963 in New Orleans, LA and was relinquished for adoption by my father. My birth record number is 157630002707. I was adopted by the Stewart family in Baton Rouge in May of 1963, and recently reunited with my birth mother. I have seen copies of my adoption papers, but I am requesting a copy of the original file, including my original birth certificate, birth name "Earl Van Dorn Best, Jr.", to find out the circumstances regarding how I became available for adoption. My birthmother has told me that my father, Earl Van Best, Jr. who is now deceased, kidnapped me and "dropped" me off for adoption in Baton Rouge. I know that my adoptive Aunt, Margie Stewart was an employee for the Department of Welfare at the time and could help me with this information, but as she is deceased also. My investigation into my father's history has indicated that my father has a criminal record there in San Francisco. My father was arrested in New Orleans on April 19, 1963 in connection with the way he "delivered" me for adoption. I also have found out that I have a younger half sister and two younger half brothers that live in Vienna Austria. They were born in the late 1960's and I have spoken to my half sister. However, she refuses to continue a relationship unless I provide her original documentation proving that my father and her father were one in the same. My father was born Earl Van Best, Jr. on 7-14-34 in Wilmore, KY. His social security number is 567-40-8923. I would appreciate your providing the information on my records at the following address. You may contact me at any time at:

I appreciate your assistance very much in this matter. Please telephone me if you should require any further information or have any questions.

Sincerely,

Gary Stewart,
Formerly, Earl Van Best, III