

Trotter Communications

Eunice Trotter, CEO

6063 Allendale Drive Indianapolis, Indiana 46224

eunice.trotter@att.net 317.489.8556

May 22, 2022

To: John Loflin

You asked that I write a letter to you about Recorders missing from the archives.

As I said to you during one of our conversations, I absolutely believe that the missing Recorders were likely destroyed in a fire. I do not recall the papers being sent outside for archival until in the 1970s and 80s. They were all stored at the facility.

I remember when I was a teenager interning at The Recorder when it was located at 518 Indiana Avenue, seeing singed bound volumes containing archived newspapers.

Cigarette smoking was common at the newspaper. I remember Mr. Marcus Stewart placing burning cigarettes on the edges of desks and seeing hot ash fall to the floor, frequently on piles of newspapers. Most of the edges of desks were cigarette burned.

I checked archives of other newspapers and found reports of fires on these dates:

Jan. 9, 1964, a roof fire at 518 Indiana Avenue

Dec. 7, 1964, an arson on the first floor at 518 Indiana Avenue

March 15, 1965, a roof fire at 528 Indiana Avenue (which I believe was a storage facility).

I also often heard stories from staff during the 1970s about fires that had occurred at The Recorder.

Best Regards,

Eunice Trotter