

**U.S. Department of Justice  
Federal Bureau of Investigation**

*Washington, DC 20535-0001*

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Official Business  
Penalty for Private Use \$300





Houston, J. more

SA

1/16/24

Cap 8

3200

~~100~~

Dec. 1925 - 92

Apr. 30, 1926 - 92

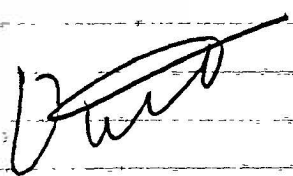
Sept. 30, 1926 - 92 \$3000

Mar. 31, 1927 - 92 \$3100

SEP 30 1927 - 90.25

MAR 31 1928 - 84.5

SEP 30 1928 - 76.7



Marital Status Single

Education \_\_\_\_\_

Office Preference Wash.

Special Qualifications St.

Leave	1927	1928	1929
A	3-6		
S	24-4-30		
WOP			

Great N. C. 1855

Hon. William C. Spruill, Governor of Kentucky  
Harrisburg, Pa.      Duplin Co.

Hon. William W. Guest, Congressman from  
Lancaster County, Lancaster, Pa. Lancaster Co.

Laurel Lee Jan 0

Sept. 1897 - June 1899<sup>3 yrs.</sup> Swarthmore College, Swarthmore

Delaware Co. Pa. Regular collegiate course

for freshmen, sophomore and junior

years. no degree.

Knowledge of French

12. Special educational training: (Under this head consideration will be given to the applicant's special training which in any way tends to fit him for the position sought.)

Both in the private and public offices in which I have been employed, I have had the advantage of the gathering of

Application for Appointment to Position of Special Agent of the Department of Justice.



Read by  
JUL 13 1922  
Wm. J. Burns, 19

The Attorney General,  
Washington, D. C.

SIR:

I have the honor to make application for appointment to the position of Special Agent of the Department of Justice, and for your use in this connection the following information is respectfully submitted:

- 1. Name in full: Miss Lenore Houston
- 2. Legal residence: 4516 Springfield av. Phila. Pa
- 3. Mail and telegraphic address: " " " "
- 4. Age on last birthday: 43 Weight: 150 Height: 5 ft. 3 in.
- 5. Place of birth: Calloway Chester Pa
- 6. Were you ever in the service of the United States? no
- 7. If so, in what department of the service were you employed? \_\_\_\_\_

8. Are you married? no

9. Are you physically capable of discharging the duties of the position sought? (Any physical defects should be fully described.) Yes

10. Do you use intoxicating liquors or narcotics? If so, to what extent? Occasionally

11. General educational training: (Under this head the applicant's entire educational training should be given in chronological order, stating the period spent in each institution, degrees taken, etc. Knowledge of any languages other than English should be indicated.)

Sept. 1884 to June 1894<sup>10 yrs</sup> Public Schools of Atford, Chester Pa receiving certificate of graduation entitling me to County Examination for teacher.  
Mar 1894 to June 1895<sup>8 mo.</sup> High School of Lancaster



of ~~interview~~ <sup>examining</sup> ~~statements~~, <sup>of</sup> ~~statements~~,  
and the detail work necessary  
and general to the preparing  
of cases both for trial and  
other dispositions.

Under their routine work  
in the Sheriff's office, that  
official acting directly under  
the County Court, I came in  
contact with both civil and  
criminal practice and all  
manner of service.

13. General experience: (Under this head applicant should state, in chronological order, his entire business experience.)

1901-1903 - Filing, clerical and stenographic  
work in preparing building specifications  
for Le Ellen Whelan, Architect, Woodmont  
Bldg., Lancaster, Lancaster Co., Pa.

1903-1911 - Secretarial and legal  
stenographic work in the office  
of Hon. George S. Johnson - Phila

1909-1917 - Clerical and legal stenographic  
work in the office of Sheriff of  
Philadelphia County, Phila

Oct. 1920 - Nov 1921 sold in furniture and  
interior department, John W. W. W. Phila

17. Are you now employed? If so, give name and address of employer, and rate of compensation received. What is the highest compensation you have received in any employment, and for what period?

*Not employed at present.  
Forty Dollars a week for three years*

18. What is the minimum per diem salary, in addition to actual traveling and hotel expenses, which you would accept?

*Fifteen Dollars*

19. Are you in a position to accept temporary employment at any time, without previous notice, and, if notice is required, how much?

*Can accept temporary employment at any time without previous notice.*

20. I submit herewith a recent photograph of myself.

Respectfully,

*Lenore Houston*  
(Signature of applicant.)

14. Special experience in investigation work: (Under this head state nature of positions held and specific character of work done.)

None has no special experience in investigation work other than stated in paragraph 12.

15. References to persons qualified to judge as to applicant's fitness for the position sought:

Hon. George S. Graham Congressman from 2<sup>nd</sup> District Phila.  
Messrs. E. S. Trust - Bldg. Phila.

Hon. A. Lincoln Acker, Collector of Port Phila.  
(one time Sheriff of Phila. Co. under whom served 4 years in 1912, 1913, 1914, 1915)

Mr. Robert Co. Chance Sr. 124 Pine St. Phila.  
(one time Sheriff of Phila. Co. under whom served 4 years in 1912, 1913, 1914, 1915)

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE



APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT

*Philadelphia Pa.*  
*April 21*, 192*4*

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL,  
Washington, D. C.

SIR:

I herewith make application for appointment to the position of *Special Agent* in the Department of Justice, and for your use in this connection submit the following information:

1. Name in full. *Houston Lenore*  
(Family name) (Given name) (Initial)
2. Legal residence *4516 Springfield Ave West Phila.*
3. Mail and telegraphic address *same*
4. Age on last birthday *45* Weight *150* Height *5-4 1/2*
5. (a) Place of birth *Pennsylvania* (b) Present citizenship *American*
6. Place of birth of (a) father *Pennsylvania* (b) mother *Pennsylvania*
7. Were you ever in the service of the United States? *no*
8. If so, when, and in what department of the service? \_\_\_\_\_

9. Are you married? (If married woman, state whether husband is in Federal service.) *no*

10. Are you physically capable of discharging the duties of the position sought? (Any physical defects should be fully described.)

*In excellent health and capable of discharging any duties demanded by position*

11. Have you ever been a defendant in a criminal case in court? *no*

Specify: \_\_\_\_\_

12. Education: (Under this head your entire educational training should be given in chronological order, with the period spent in each institution, degrees taken, etc. Knowledge of any languages other than English should be indicated first.)

*Teach*

*1885-1894 Oxford Public Schools Oxford Chester Co. Pa  
Graduate - entitled to teach in County  
1894-1896 Lancaster High School Lancaster Pa  
1896-1899 Anarctumare College Anarctumare Pa  
Junior -*

13. Experience: (Under this head, in chronological order, state your entire business and professional experience, including names of employers and dates.)

*1901-1903 (above) stenographer & clerk U-C. Emlen  
Urban Architect - Lancaster Pa  
1904-1912 Secretary to Hon George S. Groves  
Attorney - Philadelphia Pa  
1909-1918 Confidential Clerk and*

steven propher in office of Sheriff  
of Philadelphia County

14. Have you ever been discharged from a position? No

15. References to persons well qualified to judge as to your fitness for the position sought:

Hon. George S. Johnson - Congressman 2<sup>nd</sup> District  
Philadelphia

Hon. A. Lincoln Adams - Collector of Post  
Philadelphia

Hon. W. W. Greist - Congressman  
Seventh District - Pennsylvania (Lancaster Co)

Hon. William C. Spruel - Ex Governor of  
Pennsylvania - Phila Pa

16. Gives names of societies or organizations with which connected:

Republican Club for Women of  
the 46<sup>th</sup> Ward - Philadelphia

Pennsylvania State Council of  
Republican Women

American Association of  
University Women

17. State any additional facts which may tend to show your fitness for the position sought:

*Experience in legal office of George Johnson as well as Sheriff's office in re accumulating evidence preparing cases for trial. Taking deposition of witnesses and general legal work.*

18. Are you now employed? If so, give name and address of employer, and rate of compensation received. What is the highest compensation you have ever received in any employment, and for what period?

*Yes - Special Agent - Department of Justice Bureau of Investigation - \$7.00 per day - \$2500. per year for four years.*

19. Are you in a position to accept temporary employment at anytime, without previous notice, and, if notice is required, how much?

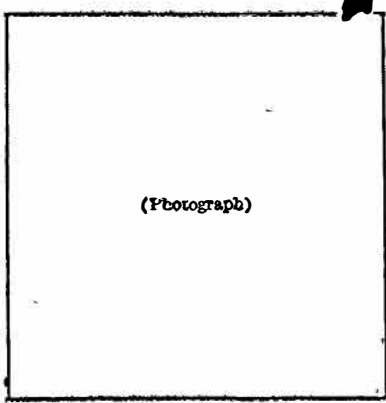
*Yes*

20. Are you willing and prepared to accept assignment to any part of the United States where services are required?

*Yes*

21. Attach unmounted photograph not larger than 3 by 4 1/2 inches. Write your name plainly on

back of photograph.



Respectfully,

*(Miss) Lenore Houston*  
(Signature of applicant.)

(Return this form to The Attorney General, Department of Justice, Washington, D. C.)

NOTE.--If the applicant desires to make any further remarks or statement concerning his qualifications or in answer to any question contained in the application, the same should be made on a separate sheet of paper, numbering the remarks in accordance with original questions.

it will be convenient for  
you to see me there, this  
being a most uncertain  
season -

If for any reason you  
cannot see me would  
it be asking too much  
to advise me? If I do  
not hear to the contrary,  
I shall complete my  
plans.

My application will have  
reached you before  
that time.

Cordially  
Lenore Houston

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Filed

11425



45-16 Springfield Ave.  
Wkst. Philadelphia

July 9, 1922

Mr. William J. Burns, Director  
Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Burns:

Finding I can be in  
Washington on Thursday  
or Friday (13<sup>th</sup> or 14<sup>th</sup>) of  
this next week, I am  
writing to know if

October 30, 1924.

Hon. George B. Graham,  
32 South Broad Street,  
Philadelphia, Pa.

My dear Mr. Graham:

Since telegraphing you the Acting Director of the Bureau of Investigation, Mr. Hoover, has had a talk with me relative to Miss Houston and informs me that the difference in designation on the card is necessitated because of rulings in the Department and in compliance with the original appointment.

You know this question of classification has compelled us to follow certain rules and regulations which are very much misunderstood by employees throughout all executive branches of the Government.

This in no way affects her salary nor does it make her work or position any different.

Sincerely yours,

WARREN F. MARTIN

Special Assistant to the  
Attorney General.

RECORDED & INDEXED

67-260-1

NOV 3 1924 P.M.
DEPT. OF JUSTICE
FILE

Miss Lenore Houston, who is a Special Agent, at the present time is on annual leave. Agent in Charge Foster states that this young lady is a very capable and efficient Agent.

From - Report of Agent M.F. Blackmon  
7-8-24 on the personnel of  
the Philadelphia Office

67-253-5

LENORE HOUSTON-SPECIAL AGENT

67-260-0

This woman, who is practically new in the Service, has shown a surprising adaptability for it. She is, of course, lacking in experience but years of service in law offices and in the Sheriff's office in this City have given her some general knowledge of the investigative game. She is intelligent, well educated and tactful.

She has shown initiative and very fair judgment in her work.

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67-260-0

file

XXXXXXXXXX

XXXXXX

WEG:JL

May 28, 1924.

Mr. Walter C. Foster,  
P. O. Box 451,  
Philadelphia, Pa.

PERSONNEL  
FILE

Dear Sir:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of  
the 21st inst., further with regard to Miss Lenore  
Houston.

I am very well satisfied with your explana-  
tion and the matter may be closed.

Very truly yours,

Acting Director.

RECORDED

MAILED

MAY 28 1924

# Department of Justice,

Bureau of Investigation.

P.O. BOX 451,  
PHILADELPHIA

WCF:AG.

MAY 22 1924

May 21, 1924.

J.E. Hoover, Esq.  
Acting Director,  
Bureau of Investigation,  
Department of Justice,  
Washington, D.C.

PERSONNEL RECORDED	
FILES	
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
MAY 22 1924 A.M.	
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
HOOVER	FILE

Attention: Mr. Hoover 2

Dear Sir:

I am in receipt of your letter dated May 19, 1924, initialed WVG-JL, enclosing copy of letter addressed to you by Mr. Walter G. Walker, formerly an Officer of the Bureau, with regard to Miss Lenore Houston, and asking that I give you an explanation at once as to matters contained therein.

The case on which Miss Houston has been working and which is undoubtedly the case referred to in the letter of Mr. Walker is captioned as follows: "Bertram M. Ainsworth, Fred F. Kegel, John F. Sweeney, R.L. Clements-Alleged Violation Sec. 29 of Bankruptcy Act- Violation Sec. 37 and 215 C.C." The case was assigned to Miss Houston after receipt of report of Agent E.W. Stewart of the Milwaukee, Wis. Office for April 18, 1924. You have quite a voluminous file on the subject.

While Mr. Walker did not see fit to give you the name of the friend in whom he is interested, the fact that he says he is now living in New York City and was formerly in business in Philadelphia and Milwaukee, makes it very clear that his friend is Bertram M. Ainsworth, the principal subject under investigation. It is furthermore clear that the Philadelphia informant, who notified him of Miss Houston's activities, is Joseph B. Givin, a close personal friend of Ainsworth, or William E. McCall, Jr., his attorney, who has been in constant consultation with him during the course of this investigation. Both of these men were shown Miss Houston's commission card and certainly neither one of them doubted the fact that she was a legitimate representative of this Bureau. They gave

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE
MAY 22 1924
DIVISION

J.E. Hoover, Esq.

-2-

May 21, 1924.

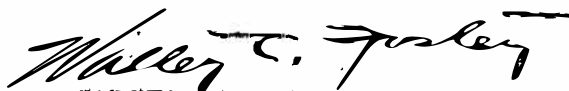
up the exhibits she asked for without question when a telephone call to this office would have been sufficient to have identified Miss Houston in the event that there was any doubt in their minds of the validity of her credentials.

As regards the statement made by Miss Houston as to the connection of her brother with the coal business- the facts stated are substantially correct except that he is engaged in business at Norfolk, Va. and not at Baltimore, Md.

For your information and in order that you may be guided in replying to Mr. Walker's letter, I am quoting from the report of Agent E.W. Stewart of the Milwaukee Office for May 10 to 14, 1924, in the above entitled matter, beginning at the fifth line from the bottom of the second page: "that he (Ainsworth) had no fear as he had several good friends in the Department of Justice, who would take care of him, naming one Frank Sparrow, who Ainsworth claimed was working out of our New York Bureau Office."

I take this opportunity of commending Miss Houston for the investigation she has conducted to date in this case and believe that her reports will convince you that she has done well. The letter of Mr. Walker fully verifies her own suspicion as to the anxiety of Givin to definitely ascertain whether the Department was investigating his friend Ainsworth with a view to prosecution.

Respectfully,



WALTER C. FOSTER  
Special Agent in Charge.

WPC-JL

May 19, 1924.

Mr. Walter C. Foster,  
P. O. Box 451,  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Dear Sir:

I am attaching herewith a copy of a letter  
addressed to me by Mr. Walter C. Foster, former-  
ly an officer of the Bureau, with regard to  
Miss Leonarda Weston.

*Houston*

I wish you would give this matter careful  
attention and let me have an explanation at  
once.

Yours very truly,

Acting Director.

MAILED  
MAY 23 1924

PERSONNEL RECORDS	
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
MAY 21 1924 A. M.	
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
	FILE



KWG-JL

May 29, 1924.

MAY 20 1924

Mr. Walter G. Walker,  
Attorney at Law,  
525 S. Loomis Street,  
Chicago, Illinois.

RECORDED

PERSONNEL  
FILES

Dear Mr. Walker:

I have your letter of the 13th inst., with regard to Miss Leona Easton employed in the Philadelphia office of the Bureau of Investigation.

I want you to know that I appreciate your interest in reporting this matter and I have already instituted an inquiry.

Yours very truly,

Acting Director.

MAILED  
MAY 17 1924

WALTER G. WALKER  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
525 S. LOOMIS ST.  
CHICAGO

TELEPHONE MONROE 6800

M A Y  
13th  
1924

MAY 20 1924

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE  
MAY 15 1924

Mr. John E. Hoover,  
Acting Director, Bureau of Investigation,  
Department of Justice,  
Washington, D. C.

PERSONNEL RECORDED
FILED
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
MAY 15 1924 A.M.
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
HOOVER FILE

My dear Mr. Hoover:--

A very close, personal friend of mine, who is now living in New York City, and who was formerly in business in Philadelphia and Milwaukee, has written me that he is presumably under investigation by your Department, but from the facts related in his letter to me, it appears that some one is trying to put something over. In brief, the story is as follows:

A female presented herself to a certain lawyer in Philadelphia, as Miss Leonore Huston, of the Bureau of Investigation, of Department of Justice, and that she was endeavoring to work up a violation of the posting laws against the Valley Coal Company, or the Valley Coal and Dock Co., for presentment to the Grand Jury at Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Inasmuch as the Bureau is not in the habit of working up Section 215 Cases, and knowing of only one or two women in the Bureau, I am asking if you will be so good to advise me as to whether or not the party above mentioned is a Special Agent, or is it an impersonation case.

This party received certain letters and documents from my friend, and signed receipt for same, as follows:

"Receipt of above papers May 1st, 1924,  
Department of Justice, Bureau of Investigation,  
by Leonore Huston, Agent."

In the course of her conversation with my friend, she stated that her people were all in the Coal game, being connected with the Huston Coal Co., in the Pocahontas Fields, and her brother is a coal man in Baltimore, Maryland.

*20  
Phila for  
apphr +  
Nellie*

WALTER G. WALKER  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
525 S. LOOMIS ST.  
CHICAGO

TELEPHONE MONROE 6800

M A Y  
13th  
1924

Mr. John E. Hoover, #2

If the Bureau is in reality investigating my friend, I will have no more interest in the matter, - but if this is a possible 32 Case, then I would like to see immediate action taken toward prosecution, because of what I know is behind the scenes, in gathering such data that has been collected.

With kind personal regards to your good self, I am

Very truly yours,

*Walter G. Walker*

WGIV: A

J:H:J

April 19, 1924.

Miss Lenore Houston,  
P.O. Box 451,  
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Madam:

In order that the application files of the Bureau may be complete and up to date, I am enclosing a new application blank, the questions of which I desire you to answer very fully and in detail, and return it to me. This application is to be executed, notwithstanding the fact that you may have at the time of your appointment filed application for a position in this Bureau. There will be no need of your submitting another photograph as the photograph already on file will be retained for the information of the Bureau.

You should return the enclosed application to me marked for the attention of Mr. Hoover within twenty-four hours after its receipt by you.

Very truly yours,



Director.

encl.

MAILED  
APR 19 1924

PERSONNEL	
FILE RECORDED	
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
APR 21 1924 A.M.	
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
	FILE

February 9, 1924

Mr. Hoover:

Miss Lenore Houston, recently appointed Special Agent, has not executed the new application form.

This for your information.

Respt.,

F. D. White

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR  
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION



WWG-JL

May 24, 1924.

Memorandum for Mr. Hoover:

I suggest that no further attention be given to the attached matter and that the paper be sent to the files.

Yours very truly,

W. W. Grimes

Acknowledge Foster's letter  
& express satisfaction of  
the explanation.

5/24 '24

JCH

PERSONNEL FILES	
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
MAY 28 10 24 A.M.	
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
HOOVER	FILE

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. HOLLAND.

Name recommended... MISS LENORE HOUSTON.....

Residence... 4516 Springfield Ave., Phila., Pa.

Endorsers... GOV. WILLIAM C. SPROUL, PA.....  
CONGRESSMAN GRAHAM

Salary recommended... \$7 A DAY.....

Position recommended... SPECIAL EMPLOYEE.....

---

Position filled... NEW POSITION.....

Salary of vacancy.....

WM. J. BURNS  
DIRECTOR



Department of Justice  
Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Mr. Holland

JAR:MGW

October 9, 1923.

Memorandum for the Appointment Clerk:

You will please prepare a letter appointing Miss Lenore Houston as Special Employee, Bureau of Investigation, salary at the rate of \$7.00 per day and \$4.00 per diem in lieu of subsistence and actual expenses of travel and operation when absent from official headquarters, which are fixed at Philadelphia, Pa., payable from the appropriation for "Detection & Prosecution of Crimes", effective with entry on duty. Field. This is a new appointment.

*W. J. Burns*  
Director.

Approved:

Attorney General.

*Approved*

*Re-written*

100 02 621

FEB 20 1924



OFFICE OF  
SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

EDWARD J. BRENNAN

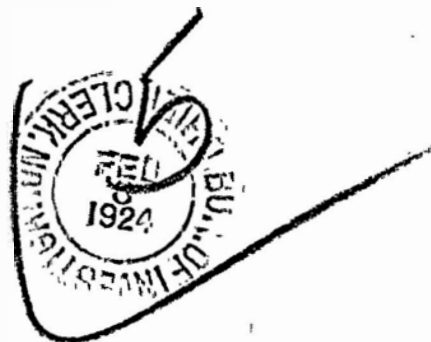
TELEPHONE, BARCLAY 8160  
POST OFFICE BOX 241  
CITY HALL STATION

# Department of Justice

## Bureau of Investigation

15 PARK ROW, 14TH FLOOR  
NEW YORK, N. Y.

Feb. 6 1924



Director  
Bureau of Investigation  
Department of Justice,  
Washington D.C.

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith is the history of newly appointed Agent Miss Lenore Houston now attending the school of instructions in New York.

Miss Houston has completed her course and is now available and ready for field work in any office to which you assign her.

Very truly yours,

*Edward J. Brennan*  
Edward J. Brennan  
Special Agent in Charge.

EJB:DD

*She will be here in day or two, you will then assign her*

Read By  
WM. J. BURNS



FEB 7 1924

FEB 9 1924

RECORDED
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FEB 9 1924 A.M.
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
DIRECTOR HOGVER
FILE <i>JL</i>

HISTORY

LENORE HOUSTON

Name: Lenore Houston  
Age: 45 years  
Married or single: Single  
Citizen of U.S. Yes, natural born  
Home Address: 4516 Springfield, Ave. Philadelphia Pa.  
Telephone Woodland 6398W  
Education: High school; 3 yrs. College; Business course.  
Languages: Speak, read, write and translate a little French.  
General experience: Secretary to C. Emlen Urbon, Architect, Lancaster, Pa. for two years.  
Secretary to HON. George S. Graham, Atty. Phila. for nine years.  
Confidential clk and steno. in Sheriffs office Phila. County for nine yrs.  
Interior Decorating Dept. John Wanamaker Phila. for five months.  
Date of entry into service & salary: Jan. 16 1924; \$7.00 per day  
Knowledge of finger print work: None

Remarks of Special Agent in Charge  
Edward J. Brennan

Personality good. This lady seems very anxious to learn and do every thing that could be asked of a woman special agent. It is suggested that whatever office to which she is assigned detail her on White Slave law violations and make a specialty of it. I have every reason to believe that she would be capable to handle violations of this law in investigating and questioning the victims in the cases. Miss Houston I think could be assigned to other work that could be handled by a woman agent.

JA:mas

October 9, 1923.

Memorandum for the Appointment Clerk:

You will please prepare a letter appointing Miss Lenore Houston as Special Employee, Bureau of Investigation, salary at the rate of \$7.50 per day and \$4.00 per diem in lieu of subsistence and actual expenses of travel and operation when absent from official headquarters, which are fixed at Philadelphia, Pa., payable from the appropriation for "Detection & Prosecution of Crimes", effective with entry on duty. Field. This is a new appointment.

Director.

Approved:

Attorney General.

WJB-L

January 16, 1924.

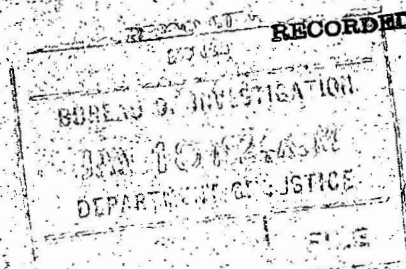
Mr. E. J. Brennan,  
Box 241, City Hall Station,  
New York, New York.

My dear Mr. Brennan:

This will serve to introduce Miss  
Lenora Houston about whom I have already  
conferred with you.

Very sincerely yours,

Director.



January 14, 1924.



Miss Lenore Houston,  
Philadelphia, Pa.

Madam:

You are hereby appointed a Special Employee of the Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, with salary at the rate of Seven Dollars (\$7.00) a day. You will also be allowed your actual expenses of travel and operation and Four Dollars (\$4.00) a day in lieu of subsistence when absent from official headquarters, which are fixed at Philadelphia, Pa.

Your salary, expenses, and per diem will be paid from the appropriation for "Detection and Prosecution of Crimes".

This appointment will take effect when you enter on duty.

This letter is not to be considered as operating credentials and is not to be so used. Operating credentials are issued separately.

You should execute and file the required oath of office.

Respectfully,

(Signed) H. M. Daugherty,  
Attorney General.

Field.

915

JAR:MEG

January 14, 1924.

Memorandum for the Appointment Clerk:

You will please prepare a letter appointing Miss Lenore Houston as Special Employee, Bureau of Investigation, salary at the rate of \$7.00 per day and \$4.00 per diem in lieu of subsistence and actual expenses of travel and operation when absent from official headquarters, which are fixed at Philadelphia, Pa., payable from the appropriation for "Detection & Prosecution of Crimes", effective with entry on duty. Field. This is a new appointment.

Director.

Approved:

Attorney General.

JEH/LMR

December 22, 1923.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. MARTIN.

With regard to your memorandum of the 21st instant, inquiring as to the appointment of Miss Leonore Houston, I do know that Mr. Burns had this applicant's name on the special list to be attended to, but owing to the fact that there is a deficiency in the field appropriation now totaling \$30,000, I assume that is the reason the appointment has not been made.

Very truly yours,

RECORDED

M A I L E

DEC 22 1923



Office of the Attorney General  
Washington, D. C.

December 21, 1923.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. HOOVER:

Representative George S. Graham took up with Mr. Burns the question of the appointment of Leonore Houston in his Department, and Mr. Burns assured Mr. Graham the appointment would be made but the same has not been done. Will you look into the question and let us know, as we would like to make this appointment if the same can be done.

*Martin*

Special Assistant to the  
Attorney General.

*answered 12/23  
L.H.B.*

PERSONNEL	
DEC 27 1923	FILES RECORDED
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
DEC 24 1923 A. M.	
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
HOOVER	FILE



WJB:D

October 25, 1928.

Hon. George S. Graham,  
~~Member of Congress,~~  
Philadelphia, Pa.

My dear Mr. Graham:

I am wondering if you will be in Washington any time soon as I am very anxious to see you concerning Miss <sup>Lesson</sup> Houston's appointment. If you are not coming here with a short time I will be glad to run over to Philadelphia to see in connection with the matter, as I am very deeply interested and will be glad to go to any trouble necessary to bring this about for you. Anticipating with much pleasure to seeing you soon, I am,

Yours very sincerely,

Director.

MAILED

OCT 28 1928

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. HOLLAND.

Name recommended.....  
Residence..... MISS LENORE HOUSTON  
Endorsers..... 4516 Springfield Ave., Phila., Pa.  
                  .. GOV. WILLIAM O. SPOUL, Pa. ....  
                  CONGRESSMAN GRAHAM  
Salary recommended.....  
Position recommended \$7. A DAY.....  
  SPECIAL EMPLOYEE  
Position filled.....  
Salary of vacancy... NEW POSITION.....

Ans. by letter 10/25/23

House of Representatives U. S.

Washington, D. C.

Sept. 11<sup>th</sup> 1923

Dear Mr. Burns: - Absence has prevented my earlier presentation of the case of Miss Lenore Houston.

She is anxious to take up work by October first, or before.

When I saw you last you promised me an appointment for her in Philadelphia until Congress should act on your plan for a new department.

Please assign to her a place in Philadelphia, work to begin as early as you please.

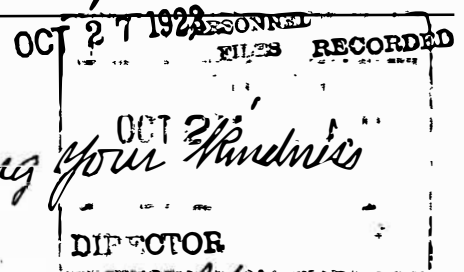
Gratfully acknowledging your kindness in the matter, I am

Faithfully yours

Hon William J. Burns

Director Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

Geo. Graham



THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

Washington, D.C.-

JOURNAL TO BE MADE AT ORIGINATING OFFICE ONLY

REPORT MADE AT: Philadelphia, PA.	DATE WHEN MADE: 10/10/23	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: 10/8th and 9th 1923	REPORT MADE BY: B. L. CARMODY-
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TITLE AND CHARACTER OF CASE:  
**MISS LENORE HOUSTON** : Application for position as  
Special Agent - Department of  
Justice.

FACTS DEVELOPED:  
AT PHILADELPHIA:

Supplementing my report dated October 4th 1923 entitled "MISS LENORE HOUSTON - APPLICANT FOR POSITION AS SPECIAL AGENT - DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE", Agent today interviewed HON. A. LINCOLN ACKER Collector of Port, Philadelphia, Pa., He informed Agent that during his four years as sheriff of Philadelphia County, applicant was employed in his office as a stenographer and general office girl and stated that he would not hesitate to trust her with the most confidential matters; that she is a very capable woman and he believes she is fully qualified to hold a position in the United States Department of Justice.

Agent then interviewed HON. WM. W. GRIEST Congressman from Lancaster County, Lancaster, Pa., who stated that he has known the applicant nearly all of her life, she having lived in Lancaster for a great many years until the death of her father who was a well known physician there. MR. GRIEST informed Agent that he believes applicant to be fully qualified to hold a position in this Department and of his own knowledge he knows her to be a very capable business woman.

CONCLUDED:

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

FILE NO. OCT 15 1923	RECORDED
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION OCT 11 1923 DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
ROUTED TO:	FILE

REFERENCE: JS:	COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO: 3-WASH; 2-PH LA.
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THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT Washington, D.C.

JOURNAL TO BE MADE AT ORIGINATING OFFICE ONLY

REPORT MADE AT: Philadelphia, PA.	DATE WHEN MADE: 10/4/23	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: 10/3rd and 4th 1923	REPORT MADE BY: B. L. CARMODY -
--------------------------------------	----------------------------	---	------------------------------------

TITLE AND CHARACTER OF CASE:  
 MISS LENORE HOUSTON : : Applicant for position as Special Agt. Dept. of Justice.

FACTS DEVELOPED:  
AT PHILADELPHIA:

Reference is made to Bureau letter dated and initialed as above.

Agent interviewed HON. GEO. S. GRAHAM, Congressman from the 2nd District, Philadelphia, Pa., at his office in the West End Trust Bldg., Philadelphia, PA., who was named by Applicant as reference. MR. GRAHAM informed Agent that he has known the applicant for a great number of years; that some of his people are related to her people by marriage; that she is a very capable woman of about 40 years of age and has had considerable experience as a Stenographer and Confidential Secretary to various sheriffs in Philadelphia County. MR. GRAHAM stated that he was particularly anxious to see applicant appointed and feels sure that she has the necessary qualifications for an investigator or for any other capacity in which the Department of Justice might see fit to use her.

MR. GRAHAM expressed surprise at Agent's call stating that he had twice interviewed the Director in Washington and was under the impression that applicant was to be appointed on October 1st 1923 as per his conversation with the Director.

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

FILE NO.	RECORDED
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
ROUTED TO:	FILE

REFERENCE: JS:	COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO: 3-WASH; 2-PHILA.
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Agent next interviewed ROBERT C. CHANCE, SR., at his place of business, 124 Pine Street, Philadelphia, PA., and learned from MR. CHANCE that he has known the applicant ever since she was a small child; that her father DR. J. W. HOUSTON, Deceased, was a prominent physician in Lancaster, Pa., and that he knows applicant to be a very capable woman and he does not hesitate to recommend her for a position as Special Agent of this Department.

While Agent was awaiting an interview with Ex-Governor WILLIAM C. SPROUL of Pennsylvania, some discreet inquiries were made in the neighborhood of applicant's home and the people interviewed all stated that they knew MISS HOUSTON to be a woman of excellent character.

Ex-governor WM. C. SPROUL informed Agent that he has known the applicant all of her life and that he was particularly well acquainted with her father, DR. J. W. HOUSTON of Lancaster, Pa., - he stated that he and applicant are related by marriage; that applicant is a very capable lady and from his own knowledge of her business ability, he is under the impression that she would make an excellent investigator.

Agent was unable to see HON. WM. W. GRIEST of Lancaster, Pa., as he was out of the city for a few days, which was also the case with HON. A. LINCOLN ACKER, Collector of Port, Philadelphia. It was therefore deemed advisable to write a preliminary report as set forth above and the other references will be seen at the earliest practicable time when a final report will be rendered to the Bureau.

CONTINUED:

JAR-LO'B

October 1, 1923.

Mr. W. C. Foster,  
P. O. Box 451,  
Philadelphia, Pa.

RECORDED

Dear Sir:-

Miss Lenore Houston, whose address is 4516 Springfield Avenue, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, has made application for appointment as a Special Agent in this Department. In her application she gives as references the following names:

Hon. Geo. S. Graham, Congressman from 2nd District, Philadelphia, West End Trust Building, Philadelphia,  
Hon. A. Lincoln Acker, Collector of Port, Philadelphia,  
Robert S. Chance Sr., 124 Pine St., Philadelphia, Pa.  
Hon. Wm. C. Sproul, Governor of Pennsylvania, Harrisburg,  
Hon. Wm. M. Priest, Congressman from Lancaster Co.,  
Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

I wish you would have a careful investigation made concerning her character, reputation and ability in order to develop Miss Houston's qualifications as Special Agent, not confining yourself solely to the references given and let me have a report at the earliest practicable time.

Very truly yours,

  
Director.

MAILED  
OCT 1 1923

Please send reports  
on this investigation to  
Mr Hoover as soon  
as they are received.

Miss Leure Houston.



JEH:

Mr. Burns says to make out  
appointment for Miss Lenore Houstoun  
as Special Employee at \$7.00 a day,  
if that is what Alaska P. Davidson  
is getting.

FJS

Special Investigation ordered  
11/1/23 JEH

Mr. Burns: .

You wanted to be reminded  
of this.

Arrange for Miss Houston's  
appointment in October.

FJS

House of Representatives U. S.  
Washington, D. C.

June 14, 1923.

Hon. William J. Burns,  
Director Bureau of Investigation,  
Department of Justice,  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Burns:

I am sending this letter to you by the hands of Miss Lenore Houston, the person concerning whom I spoke to you at our interview yesterday. I am very particularly interested in helping her to secure employment in the Department over which you preside. I can commend her to your favorable consideration as an intelligent, competent, honest woman, who I believe will render good service and discharge her duties with fidelity. Please arrange definitely with her for a place, and you will greatly oblige,

Faithfully yours,

*Geo. S. Graham*

OCT 2 1923 INDEXED RECORDED  
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
OCT 2 1923 P. M.  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
SELL FILE

*Arrange for Miss Houston's appointment in October.*

*She Exp. 7.00*



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE  
HARRISBURG

THE GOVERNOR

July 26, 1922.

My dear Chief:

Thank you for your letter of the 20th, instant, in regard to Miss Houston. It will please her very much and it also pleases me.

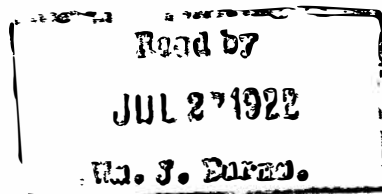
I certainly do want to see you some of these days. Harry Daugherty tells me that you are wearing very well, and that you are not showing the passing years.

With kind personal regards, I am

Very sincerely,

*Wm. E. Smyth*

Mr. William J. Burns,  
Department of Justice,  
Washington, D. C.



WJB:Br

July 20, 1922.

Hon. Wm. C. Sproul,  
Governor,  
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,  
Harrisburg, Pa.

My dear Governor:

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 15th calling attention to the application of Miss Lenore Houston, of Philadelphia, who is an applicant for the position of special agent in this Bureau.

I arranged with Congressman Graham to have Miss Houston call for a personal interview and I was very much impressed with her. I told her that just as soon as the reorganization of the service was made, and which is expected to take place of investigative divisions of the Government, I will be very glad indeed to give her application immediate consideration.

At the present time, as you probably know, we have no women special agents. I will be very glad to keep it in mind however.

Miss Houston spoke of you as being a friend of hers during our interview and I told her that your recommendation went a long way with me.

I was very sorry that I did not get to see you on your visit to Washington some time ago. I did not know you were here until after you had left but I hope to have the pleasure of seeing you soon. I know that you are having a very serious time at the present but I hope it will be adjusted satisfactorily.

Let me also assure you that any time I can be of service to you or any of your friends you have only to command me.

Very sincerely yours,

*W. J. Burns*

RECORDED

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania



Executive Department  
HARRISBURG.

THE GOVERNOR

July 15th, 1922.

Mr. William J. Burns,  
Department of Justice,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Chief:

A friend of mine, Miss Lenore Houston, of Philadelphia, has made application for a position as investigator in your service. Miss Houston is a very capable woman, old enough to be pretty well settled but, nevertheless, chic and alert and has excellent ability. She is regarded as one of the best legal clerks and stenographers in Philadelphia, is well connected and responsible. I think she would be very useful in the line of work which she desires to follow and I take great pleasure in recommending her.

I trust that this finds you well and in good spirits. We are pretty busy up here sitting tight trying to keep the old craft on even keel.

With regards always, I am,

Very sincerely,

*Wm. L. Spruill*

PERSONNEL	REC'D
BUREAU	REC'D
DEPT.	REC'D
DIRECTOR	REC'D

JUL 22 1922

JAR/LMR

July 16, 1922.

Miss Inmore Swanson,  
4516 Springfield Ave.,  
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Madam:

Your application for a position as  
Special Agent in this Department has been re-  
ceived and placed on file for consideration  
in connection with future appointments of this  
character.

Very truly yours,

Director.

WJB:Br

June 28, 1942.

Miss Lenore Houston,  
4516 Springfield Ave.,  
Philadelphia, Penn.

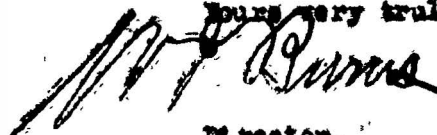
My dear Miss Houston:

Congressman Graham has called on me and stated that he was very anxious to have you appointed a Special Agent of the Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice. He also explained your qualifications and recommended you in the very highest terms. I replied that we of course were very glad indeed to consider the application of one so qualified as he stated you were but at the present time we have no women special agents, but that just as soon as this bill co-ordinating all the departments is passed my intention is to appoint six or eight high class women investigators and that I would be very glad indeed at that time to give your application favorable consideration.

I am enclosing herewith a blank application which if you will be good enough to execute and return to me we will have the matter on file.

Mr. Graham stated that at a convenient time you would probably come to Washington so that I could see and talk with you, so that any time you happen to be in Washington if you can call at my office at the Department of Justice I would be very glad indeed to see you.

Yours very truly,



Director.

RECORDED

JUN 29 1942  
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE



Lenora Houston

45-16 - Springfield ar

Woodland 6398 - W -  
20 Jan

Mr. Graham is a relative -



letter of the 28<sup>th</sup> ult.; this has been accomplished  
in response to Mr. Graham recommending  
me for the place of a personal interview.

With renewed appreciation  
of your kind interest,  
I am  
As soon as I have the application executed and  
a photograph to accompany it, I will  
return the same to you for filing. After  
Cordially  
Denise Honston.

October 30, 1924.

Hon. George S. Graham,  
32 South Arch Street,  
Philadelphia, Pa.

67-260-2

Card you mention is identification card and simply replacing  
old card of Bureau of Investigation Agents which was signed  
by former Attorney General for new card signed by Attorney  
General Stone stop Miss <sup>U</sup>Reaster evidently misunderstands  
whole matter

WARREN F. MARTIN  
Special Assistant Attorney General

RECORDED & INDEXED

67-260-2

OCT 31 1924 P.M.	
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
	FILE