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## Papers of Gabriel Cazares : A Collection Guide

Nelson Poynter Memorial Library. Special Collections and University Archives.

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Gabriel Cazares 1920-2006

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# **The Papers of Gabriel Cazares**

## **Los Archivos de Gabriel Cazares**

*A Collection Guide by*

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**Special Collections and Archives**  
**Nelson Poynter Memorial Library**  
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## **Introduction to the Collection**

In September 2003, Gabriel Cazares—former mayor of Clearwater and member of the Pinellas County commission—donated personal archives related to his service as a member of the Florida State Commission on Hispanic Affairs and his general leadership on Hispanic issues. This collection documents Cazares’s lifelong struggles on behalf of civil rights, human rights, and social justice (including his support of migrant farm workers). The collection represents the diverse voices of Florida’s Hispanic community, as well as Cazares’s many creative labors.

## **Introducción a la Colección**

Gabriel Cazares, ex-alcalde de la Ciudad de Clearwater y ex-miembro de la Junta del Condado de Pinellas donó sus archivos personales relacionados con su trayectoria como miembro de la Comisión de Asuntos Hispánicos del Estado de la Florida y como líder en asuntos hispanos. Esta colección documenta el compromiso de Gabe Cazares por la defensa de los derechos humanos, civiles y de justicia social de la población en general y especialmente de los trabajadores migrantes del campo. Esta colección representa las diversas voces presentes en la comunidad hispana de la Florida así como el activismo del Sr. Cazares.

## **Biographical Note**

A native of Alpine, Texas, Gabriel Cazares was born on 31 January 1920. He enlisted in the California National Guard in 1938, and entered the United States Army Air Corps in 1941. He served in the European theatre of operations during the Second World War, and later participated in the Berlin Airlift, the Korean Conflict, and the Vietnam War. A graduate of the Armed Forces Staff College in Norfolk, Virginia, Cazares retired from active duty in the United States Air Force (USAF) in 1966 at the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. He received the Bronze Star Medal in 1951, two USAF Commendation Medals, and a USAF Commendation Ribbon. Cazares attended Los Angeles City College and Fresno State College before completing his Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology at Texas Christian University.

Mr. Cazares’s public and community leadership activities include his service as Mayor of Clearwater (1975-1978) and as a Pinellas County Commissioner (1980-1984). He participated in many government advisory committees and boards, including: the Bi-Racial Advisory Committee of the Pinellas County School Board, Educational Standards Commission of the Florida Department of Education, Florida State Commission on Hispanic Affairs, Florida Commission on Human Relations, Pinellas County Metropolitan Planning Association, and the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council. His work with community and political organizations includes service as a member of the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC), president of the Clearwater Free Clinic, chair of the Pinellas County Democratic Executive Committee, a Golden Heritage life member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and charter president of the Northern Pinellas Democratic Club. “Gabe” and his wife, Velma Cazares, continued their commitment to social causes and community service long after his retirement from public office. They currently reside in the Countryside area of Clearwater, Florida.

## **Nota Biográfica**

Gabriel Cazares nació en la ciudad de Alpine en el estado de Texas un 31 de enero de 1920. En 1938 se enlistó en la Guardia Nacional de California y en 1941 se incorporó a la Fuerza Aérea Americana. Luchó en la Segunda Guerra Mundial, la Guerra con Corea y Vietnam. Habiéndose graduado de la Escuela Militar en Norfolk Virginia, Cazares se jubiló de las fuerzas armadas como oficial de la Fuerza Aérea en

1966 con el rango de Teniente Coronel. En 1951 recibió la Medalla Estrella de Bronce. Gabe tomó clases en Los Angeles City College and Fresno State College antes de terminar su bachillerato en sociología en la Texas Christian University.

Como civil, el Sr. Cazares sirvió como alcalde de la ciudad de Clearwater entre 1975-78 y como comisionado en la Junta de Comisionados de la ciudad en 1980-84. Ha participado en muchos comités consultivos y juntas del gobierno como: el Comité Bi-Racial de la Junta Escolar del Condado de Pinellas, la Comisión Estatal sobre Asuntos Hispanos de Florida, la Comisión de Relaciones Humanas de Florida, la Asociación Planificadora Metropolitana del Condado de Pinellas y el Comité Regional de Planificación del Area de Tampa. Su trabajo con organizaciones políticas y comunitarias incluye: la Liga de los Ciudadanos Latinos Unidos (LULAC), presidente de la Clínica Libre de Clearwater, director del Comité Ejecutivo del Partido Demócrata en Pinellas, miembro "Golden Heritage" de la Asociación para el Avance de Personas de Color (NAACP) y presidente fundador del Club Democrático de Pinellas. Gabe y su esposa, Velma Cazares, continúan trabajando por las causas sociales y de servicio a la comunidad aún después de haberse jubilado como oficial público. Actualmente residen en el área de Countryside en Clearwater, Florida.

### **Preservation Note**

While preservation measures may slow the physical deterioration of such items, these steps cannot prevent damage from occurring. To prevent further damage to the fragile materials in this collection, avoid exposing them to light for an extended period of time. Please report any tears or other damage so that library staff may take appropriate preservation or conservation measures. Protective gloves should be worn when handling all fragile materials. While no restrictions limit access to this collection, library staff will evaluate photocopying or digitization requests on an individual basis to ensure the long-term preservation of this unique collection. Patrons using this collection must adhere to copyright and fair-use guidelines and provide proper citation of sources appearing in their research.

### **Notas para preservar la colección**

Aún cuando las medidas tomadas para preservar documentos retardan el deterioro de los mismo, estas medidas no pueden prevenir que algunos daños ocurran. En un esfuerzo por prevenir otros daños a la colección, por favor, evite exponer los documentos a luz directa por períodos largos. Por favor, deje saber al personal de la biblioteca si Ud. encontrara daños como rasgados de manera que se puedan tomar medidas apropiadas para la conservación de la colección. El uso de guantes protectores es requerido siempre que se maneje material frágil. Aún cuando no hay restricciones en el acceso a la colección, el personal de la biblioteca evaluará pedidos de fotocopias o de conversión digital de manera individual en un esfuerzo por preservar esta colección única. Aquellos que deseen estudiar la colección deberán sujetarse a las regulaciones pertinentes a la propiedad intelectual y guía de uso justo debiendo citar apropiadamente las fuentes utilizadas en la investigación.

### **Provenance of the Papers of Gabriel Cazares**

This collection falls under the Local and Regional History provenance of the Special Collections and Archives department, Nelson Poynter Memorial Library, USF St. Petersburg.

## **Pertenencia de la Colección**

Esta colección forma parte de la sección histórica local y regional de la sección de Colecciones Especiales y Archivos de la Biblioteca Nelson Poynter, USF, St.Petersburg.

## **Scope and Contents**

The contents occupy fourteen document boxes and one Princeton file (approximately 6.50 linear feet). Items fall within five distinct series: Biographical Files, Civil Rights, Hispanic Affairs, Farm Workers and Migrant Labor, and Clipping and Research Files. Most of the research and photocopies date from the mid-1970s through the late 1990s, though the collection does include materials from as early as the 1930s. The largest series, Hispanic Affairs, includes information about the Florida State Commission on Hispanic Affairs and general files that document Hispanic issues in Florida. Correspondence, agendas, meeting minutes, clippings, and government documents constitute the bulk of the collection.

## **Descripción de la Colección**

Esta colección ocupa catorce cajas de documentos y un archivo Princeton (aproximadamente 6,50 pies lineales). El material se encuentra clasificado en cinco series distintas: Archivo Biográfico, Derechos Civiles, Asuntos Hispanos, Trabajadores del Campo/Migrantes y Artículos Varios y Carpetas de Investigación. La gran mayoría de las investigaciones y fotocopias datan entre 1970 y finales de 1990, aun cuando la colección tiene material que data de los años 30. La serie más extensa, Asuntos Hispanos, incluye información sobre la Comisión Estatal de Asuntos Hispanos de la Florida y archivos generales que documentan asuntos hispanos dentro del estado de la Florida. Cartas, agendas, minutas de reuniones, artículos de periódico y documentos gubernamentales constituyen la mayoría de la serie.

## **Language Note**

Although most items in this collection are composed in English, some letters, memoranda, clippings, and other materials in this collection are only available in Spanish. Library staff may not be able to provide exact translations of some materials in the collection.

## **Nota sobre el Idioma**

Aún cuando la mayoría de los documentos en esta colección están en inglés, algunas cartas, memorandums, artículos de periódico y otros materiales están solamente en español. El personal de la biblioteca no siempre podrá ofrecer traducciones exactas de los materiales en esta colección.

## **Additional Sources of Information**

To review archival records related to Gabriel Cazares's public service, please consult with the Records Management Office of the Official Records and Legislative Services Department of the City of Clearwater (for his service as mayor) and the General Services Records Management office of Pinellas County (for his service as a county commissioner). Researchers interested in the work of the Florida State Commission on Hispanic Affairs should also visit the State Archives in the R. A. Gray Building,

Tallahassee. Contained therein are the official records of the Commission on Hispanic Affairs (Record Group 100, Series 1102) that occupy 44.00 cubic feet of shelf space.

## **Fuentes de Información Adicionales**

Si Ud. deseara obtener más información sobre las actividades de Gabriel Cazares, recomendamos ponerse en contacto con la oficina de Records Management of the Official and Legislative Services Department de la ciudad de Clearwater (si la información que se busca es sobre su servicio como alcalde de la ciudad) a al General Services Records Management del condado de Pinellas (para más información sobre su rol en la Junta del Condado). Los investigadores interesados en el trabajo realizado por la Florida State Commission on Hispanic Affairs deben consultar los archivos del estado en el edificio R.A.Gray Building en Tallahassee. Allí se encuentran los records oficiales de la Comisión de Asuntos Hispanos (Colección #100, Serie 1102) que ocupa 44.00 pies cúbicos.

## **Container Listing: First Accession** (*Contenido de las cajas*)

### **SERIES: BIOGRAPHICAL FILES**

#### **Series Scope and Contents:**

Materials in this series include general biographical materials, photographs, campaign records, and speeches. Researchers with an interest in Mr. Cazares's involvement with community and political organizations should consult these files before examining materials in other series.

#### **Box 1, Folder 1**

##### **Biographical Background Information**

Contents: Biographical data sheets, booklet from 125<sup>th</sup> Liaison Squadron, and general materials.

#### **Box 1, Folder 2**

##### **Photographs**

#### **Box 1, Folder 3**

##### **Personal Correspondence; Reunions**

#### **Box 1, Folder 4**

##### **General Biographical Materials; Correspondence; Speeches; Clippings**

Contents: Speeches of a general nature (rather than ones devoted to Hispanic affairs or other more specific topics), newsletters, luncheon programs, correspondence.

#### **Box 1, Folders 5 and 6**

##### **Patriotic Speeches and Associated Materials**

Contents: Handwritten or typewritten speeches and notes, many on notecards, that deal with patriotic topics, military service, and service to the nation. Some speeches also commemorate the Bicentennial of the United States in 1976.

**Box 1, Folder 7**

**Campaign Materials**

Contents: candidate profiles and treasurer's reports.

**Box 1, Folder 8**

**Church of Scientology in Clearwater, Florida**

**SERIES: CIVIL RIGHTS**

**Series Scope and Contents:**

Materials in this series document general civil rights activities, including the work of individuals and organizations.

**Box 2, Folder 1**

**General Materials**

Contents: Programs supporting civil rights initiatives by political parties and organizations, proclamations, press releases, information on the Civil Rights Act of 1991, and a copy of the first annual report of the Florida Commission on African American Affairs.

**Box 2, Folder 2**

**Human Rights Issues in Florida**

Contents: State civil rights conference program, community relations ordinance in Clearwater, Pinellas County Equal Employment Compliance Handbook for Managers, Citizen's Guide from Pinellas County Office on Human Relations, documents from Statewide Human Rights Advocacy Committee, and miscellaneous items.

**Box 2, Folder 3**

**Racial and Hate Crimes**

Contents: Background materials on hate groups and hate crimes.

**Box 2, Folder 4**

**Commemoration of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., in Florida**

Contents: Memoranda, documents, subcommittee reports and associated materials related to creating ceremonies and official observances of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., in Florida. Cazares served as a member of the Commemorative Celebration Commission.

**Box 2, Folder 5**

**National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)**

Contents: Programs from NAACP events in Pinellas County. A Golden Heritage life member of the NAACP, Cazares actively supported local branches in their struggle for civil rights.



**Box 2, Folder 6**

**National Conference for Community and Justice (NCCJ)**

Note: Organization was formerly known as the National Conference of Christians and Jews.

**Box 3, Folder 1**

**Minority Business Enterprise in Florida**

Contents: Photocopies of documents released by the Department of Management Services, State of Florida in 1992 and 1994.

**Box 3, Folder 2**

**State University System of Florida Workshop Materials**

Contents: Materials used in a July 1988 workshop on equal opportunity and affirmative action sponsored by the State University System of Florida.

**SERIES: HISPANIC AFFAIRS**

**Series Scope and Contents:**

This is the largest series in the Papers of Gabriel Cazares. Materials in this series fall into one of two major areas: 1.) documents produced by and for the Florida State Commission on Hispanic Affairs and 2.) files related to Hispanic issues.

**Box 3, Folder 3**

**History/Overview of Hispanic Affairs Commission**

Contents: Items in this folder document the history, operations, and closing of the office of the Florida State Commission on Hispanic Affairs. Researchers should examine this folder for a general overview of the Commission and its activities.

**Box 3, Folder 4**

**Commission on Hispanic Affairs: Executive Director's Reports**

**Box 3, Folder 5**

**Commission on Hispanic Affairs: Meeting Notices and Agendas**

**Box 3, Folders 6 and 7**

**Commission on Hispanic Affairs: Meeting Minutes**

**Box 4, Folder 1**

**"Substance Abuse by Florida Youth" 1990 Report by Commission**

**Box 4, Folders 2 through 6**

**Commission on Hispanic Affairs: Annual Reports**

Contents: Folder 2 (1977); Folder 3 (1978); Folder 4 (1978-1981);  
Folder 5 (1982); Folder 6 (1985).

**Box 5, Folders 1 through 7**

**Commission on Hispanic Affairs: Annual Reports**

Contents: Folder 1 (1986); Folders 2 and 3 (1987); Folder 4 (1991);  
Folder 5 (1992); Folder 6 (1993); Folder 7 (1994).

**Box 6, Folder 1**

**Commission on Hispanic Affairs: Miscellaneous Memoranda**

**Box 6, Folder 2**

**“Report on State Contracted Dollars with Hispanic Businesses”**

Contents: Photocopy of 1993 report by the Commission on  
Hispanic Affairs.

**Box 6, Folder 3**

**“Briefing to the Governor’s Hispanic Commission”**

Contents: Copy of 24 September 1991 report to Commission  
by Florida Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services.

**Box 6, Folder 4**

**“The State of Hispanic Employment” Draft Report by Commission**

**Box 6, Folder 5**

**Reports on School Dropout Rate and Under-representation of  
Hispanics in Public Employment**

**Box 6, Folder 6**

**Participation of Hispanic Firms in the State Government  
Procurement System**

**Box 6, Folders 7 and 8**

**Research on Hispanics in State and Local Government**

Contents: Correspondence, statistical data, and reports on Hispanic  
employees and commission members in counties and agencies  
throughout Florida. Information compiled by the Commission was used  
in various reports during the early 1990s.

**Box 7, Folders 1 and 2**

**Correspondence by Governmental Bodies (Local, County, State,  
Federal)**

**Box 7, Folder 3**

**Speeches by Cazares on Hispanic Issues**

**Box 7, Folder 4**

**Florida Commission on Human Relations**

Contents: Programs, correspondence, meeting minutes, agendas, and miscellaneous documents.

**Box 7, Folder 5**

**Political Advocacy**

Contents: Policy summaries, position statements, and similar materials related to Hispanic issues by various organizations.

**Box 7, Folder 6**

**League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC):  
Organizational Records, Meeting Minutes, Press Releases**

**Box 7, Folder 7**

**League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC):  
Associated Materials**

**Box 7, Folder 8**

**League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC):  
Conventions and Meetings**

**Box 8, Folder 1**

**Hispanics in Florida's Colleges and Universities**

Contents: Includes materials related to an Equal Opportunity Advisory Committee on-site visit to the University of South Florida (4 December 1987), a 1996 salary equity study at USF, and a 1984 commission report entitled "The Hispanic Student in Florida's University System," as well as correspondence.

**Box 8, Folder 2**

**Latin American and Caribbean Studies, University of South Florida**

**Box 8, Folder 3**

**Central American Scholarship Program (St. Petersburg Junior College)**

**Box 8, Folder 4**

**General Materials and Reports in Hispanic Affairs**

**Box 8, Folder 5**

**General Correspondence in Hispanic Affairs**

**Princeton File Container**

**City of West Palm Beach, Hispanic American Advisory Board  
First and Second Annual Reports (1991, 1992)**

## **SERIES: FARM WORKERS AND MIGRANT LABOR**

### **Series Scope and Contents:**

The documents in this series illustrate the challenges and obstacles frequently faced by Hispanic immigrants, farm workers, and migrant laborers in Florida. The social advocacy files include clippings and information about protests against corporations over unfair labor practices.

### **Box 8, Folder 6**

#### **Speeches by Cazares on Farm Workers and Migrant Labor**

### **Box 8, Folder 7**

#### **Correspondence**

### **Box 8, Folder 8**

#### **Immigration**

Contents: Memoranda, reports, and correspondence related to immigration issues. Of special interest are the materials related to Andres Medina.

### **Box 8, Folder 9**

#### **Laws and Legislation**

Contents: Includes materials compiled as part of a “crew chief compliance officer program.”

### **Box 9, Folder 1**

#### **Governor’s Advisory Council on Farmworker Affairs; Misc. Meeting Minutes; Public Documents**

Contents: Reports, correspondence, memoranda, and other materials created by the Advisory Council, interested parties, and other groups, such as the Coalition of Florida Farmworker Organizations.

### **Box 9, Folder 2**

#### **Migrant Health and Safety**

### **Box 9, Folders 3 and 4**

#### **Social Advocacy**

Contents: Clippings, fliers, brochures, reports, newsletters, and other items that document issues faced by migrant farm workers. Groups represented include the Farm Labor Organizing Committee (FLOC), the Sarasota Manatee Farmworkers Supporters, Farmworkers Self-Help of Dade City, and the United Farmworkers of America. In addition to position statements on housing assistance and labor relations, the collection includes materials related to FLOC’s proposed boycott of Mt. Olive Pickles and the Coalition of Immokalee Workers’ plan to boycott Taco Bell over wages paid to migrant

tomato pickers. Cazares' public opposition to Taco Bell's use of a Chihuahua named "Dinky" in commercials is also well-documented.

**Box 9, Folder 5**

**Religious Organizations Assisting Farm Workers**

Contents: Brochures, pamphlets, programs, fliers, and newsletters related to the work of religious organizations on behalf of migrant laborers, with the bulk of the materials published by the National Farm Worker Ministry.

**Box 9, Folder 6**

**Educational Opportunities for Migrant Farm Workers and Children**

**Box 9, Folder 7**

**Newsletters and Miscellaneous Materials**

**SERIES: CLIPPINGS AND RESEARCH FILES**

**Series Scope and Contents:**

While many folders in earlier series include clippings directly related to Cazares and his involvement as an advocate for Hispanic issues, the select group of clippings and publications in this series include some of his research material on specific causes.

**Box 10, Folder 1**

**Civil Rights**

**Box 10, Folders 2 and 3**

**Civil Rights: Affirmative Action**

**Box 10, Folders 4 and 5**

**Hispanic Affairs**

**Box 11, Folder 1**

**Hispanic Affairs (in Spanish language)**

**Box 11, Folder 2**

**Migrant Farm Workers**

**Box 11, Folder 3**

**Immigration**

**Box 11, Folder 4**

**Miscellaneous Publications and Newsletters**

Contents: Includes a copy of the June 1990 report from the Florida Commission on a Free Cuba.

# Container Listing: Second Accession (*Contenido de las cajas*)

## SERIES: BIOGRAPHICAL FILES

### **Series Scope and Contents:**

Materials in this series include general biographical materials, photographs, campaign records, and speeches. Biographical files constitute the bulk of the second accession. Researchers with an interest in Mr. Cazares's involvement with community and political organizations should consult these files before examining materials in other series.

### **Box 12, Folder 1**

#### **Biographical Background Information**

Contents: Resumes and other basic biographical information.

### **Box 12, Folder 2**

#### **Photographs—Public Service**

Contents: Includes autographed photo with Lawton Chiles, miscellaneous images taken during his tenure as Mayor of Clearwater and Pinellas County Commissioner.

### **Box 12, Folder 3**

#### **Photographs—Military Service**

Contents: Includes photograph of his military unit during World War II and an oversize photograph of him with his military medals and honors noted.

### **Box 12, Folder 4**

#### **Photographs—Personal and Miscellaneous**

Contents: Images of Gabriel Cazares at picnics and other gatherings. Some may be from events he attended as part of his duties of public office.

### **Box 12, Folder 5**

#### **General Biographical Materials**

### **Box 12, Folder 6**

#### **Honors, Awards, and Recognitions**

### **Box 12, Folder 7**

#### **Campaign Materials/Political Ephemera**

### **Box 12, Folder 8**

#### **Political Correspondence**

Includes correspondence by Cazares as both an elected official and private citizen to local, state, and national political candidates and officeholders.

### **Box 12, Folder 9**

#### **Letters of Congratulation Received while Serving as Mayor**

**Box 13, Folder 1**  
**Correspondence as Mayor, including Some Personal Letters**

**Box 13, Folders 2 and 3**  
**Correspondence as County Commissioner**

**Box 13, Folder 4**  
**General Correspondence**

**Box 13, Folder 5**  
**Clearwater and Pinellas County History**  
Materials collected during his public life that describe the history of the City of Clearwater and the Pinellas Peninsula.

**Box 13, Folder 6**  
**Clearwater, Fla.—Miscellaneous Businesses and Organizations**

**Box 13, Folder 7**  
**Clippings about Gabe Cazares, 1930s-1970**  
Includes photocopies of clippings originally kept in a scrapbook that suffered damage in a fire. This scrapbook included clippings about Cazares in high school, college, and the military during his tenure as one of the fastest athletes in track and field. He excelled in track while he was a student at James Garfield High School in Los Angeles, and continued to win competitions during his college years.

**Box 13, Folder 8**  
**Clippings about Gabe Cazares, 1971-2000**  
Includes a variety of clippings—primarily from the *St. Petersburg Times*, *St. Petersburg Evening Independent*, and *Clearwater Sun*—that describe events during Cazares's service as mayor and county commissioner. Also found in these clippings are letters to "Colonel Clearwater," a regular forum about events in Clearwater that appeared in the local section of the *Clearwater Sun*.

### **SERIES: CIVIL RIGHTS**

**Series Scope and Contents:**

Materials in this series document general civil rights activities, including the work of individuals and organizations.

**Box 14, Folder 1**  
**General Materials**

**Box 14, Folder 2**  
**Correspondence**

**SERIES: HISPANIC AFFAIRS**

**Series Scope and Contents:**

Much of Mr. Cazares's work focused on issues related to Hispanic Affairs, as well as agencies, organizations, and social causes that assisted Latinos. Materials in this series reflect his efforts in this area.

**Box 14, Folder 3**  
**General Materials**

**Box 14, Folder 4**  
**Correspondence**

**Box 14, Folder 5**  
**League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC)**

**Box 14, Folder 6**  
**LULAC Reports by the Florida Department of Education**

**SERIES: FARM WORKERS AND MIGRANT LABOR**

**Series Scope and Contents:**

The documents in this series illustrate the challenges and obstacles frequently faced by Hispanic immigrants, farm workers, and migrant laborers in Florida. The social advocacy files include clippings and information about protests against corporations over unfair labor practices.

**Box 14, Folder 7**  
**Migrant Health and Safety**

**Box 14, Folder 8**  
**Social Advocacy**

**Box 14, Folder 9**  
**Correspondence**