

Mississippi Writer Pens Second Novel
(A Mini-synopsis)

West Point, Mississippi native, Dr. J. John Portera, has recently completed his second novel in less than two years. *The Note*, like Portera's first novel, *Conspirators of Revenge*, is a psychological thriller. The novel poignantly presents the intense, twelve-year manhunt for a serial killer, between June 25, 1965, and July 1, 1977. Each of the seven female victims had been killed in the state of Kentucky, with the first six homicides having been committed within a fifty-mile radius of downtown Louisville, Kentucky. Investigators knew, without a shadow of doubt, that they were dealing with a psychopathic serial killer after assimilating the crime scene evidence discovered in the home of Patricia "Pat" Maniakis, the killer's third victim, in June, 1969.

By the time that Jewel Anne Lott, a fifty-four-year-old Hickman, Kentucky widow was murdered on July 1, 1977, the investigating authorities had labeled the elusive murderer as the SPN Killer; an infamous moniker that struck paralyzing fear in the hearts and minds of Kentucky women anytime they heard or read about the man who always left a written tell-tale reason for committing each of the macabre murders. It was a fingerprint-like piece of evidence that investigators simply identified as *The Note*.

The author, as he did in *Conspirators of Revenge*, has once again utilized the renowned forensic psychologist, Dr. Matteo, to narrate this chilling tale. In the end, it is Dr. Matteo who identifies the killer's psychopathology—as he does with each of the killers in Portera's novels. Reviews, prior to actual publishing release of the novel, have given a glimpse of a novel that promises to be a riveting read; one that is a proverbial page-turner from page one to the epilogue's last page.