

**IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF PHILADELPHIA COUNTY  
TRIAL DIVISION**

**IN RE:** : **MISC. NO. 0006987-2016**  
:   
**THE TWENTY-NINTH COUNTY** :   
:   
**INVESTIGATING GRAND JURY** : **NOTICE C-43**

**TO THE HONORABLE ROBERT P. COLEMAN, SUPERVISING JUDGE:**

**PRESENTMENT NO. VII**

We, the Twenty-Ninth County Investigating Grand Jury, were impaneled pursuant to the Investigating Grand Jury Act, 42 Pa. C.S. § 4541 et. seq., and have been charged by the Court to investigate the facts and circumstances surrounding the potential criminal activities of former Philadelphia Homicide Detective Philip Nordo.

**THE GRAND JURY'S FINDINGS**

**INTRODUCTION**

1. Philip Nordo ("Nordo") became a Philadelphia Police Department ("PPD") officer on June 23, 1997, became a detective on December 23, 2002, and joined the Homicide Unit on November 10, 2009. [REDACTED]

2. Nordo used his position of authority to engage in police misconduct involving interviews of potential witnesses and suspects. He cultivated relationships with male suspects,

witnesses, or individuals who may or may not have been related to an investigation. Nordo cultivated these relationships by grooming the individuals, engaging in conduct to make the targets of his advances more susceptible to his sexually assaultive and/or coercive behavior. He also used intimidation and manipulation to keep his victims from coming forward.

3. Nordo's official misconduct involved:

- i. Coercing potential witnesses and suspects to appear at meeting locations chosen by Nordo outside of PPD properties, including [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]
  - ii. Threatening some individuals with continued detention, arrest, and prosecution, despite knowing that he lacked reasonable suspicion or probable cause;
  - iii. Helping some individuals avoid criminal prosecution or significant punishment for crimes they had committed that were readily provable by the Commonwealth (in some cases Nordo prevented charges from being formally filed, and in other cases he requested leniency from prosecutors or judges);
  - iv. Using threats, coercion, and force to prevent individuals from broadly sharing information about him;
  - v. Forcing, coercing, and/or attempting to coerce witnesses to sign interview statements/75-483s that were not true recitations of what witnesses said during interviews;
  - vi. Submitting requests for individuals to receive crime reward monies that contained fabricated and falsified information, in violation of reward program requirements;
- and

vii. Seeking promises of loyalty in exchange for promises of Nordo's loyalty.

4. Nordo's sexually coercive grooming and assaultive behavior included the following:

- i. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]
- ii. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED];
- iii. Discussing sexual conduct with individuals;
- iv. Giving individuals money, including deposits to an inmate's commissary account, and gift cards;
- v. Inappropriately staring or looking at an individual's penis while the individual was under arrest or confined to a correctional institution;
- vi. Commenting on the size and condition of the individual's penis, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED];
- vii. Touching the non-intimate parts of an individual's body, such as the individual's shoulder, arm, or leg;
- viii. Discussing having sexual relationships with the individual in person, or over the phone, utilizing code words, [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
- ix. Requesting that incarcerated individuals refer Nordo "homosexual inmates" who were soon-to-be released from incarceration, so he could have sex with them or sexually groom them.

5. Nordo engaged in these behaviors during his investigations, including while inside interrogation rooms, official visiting rooms at prisons, and with individuals he met through his official capacity as a member of the PPD.
6. While a member of the Homicide Task Force, Nordo often volunteered to handle ministerial work for other detectives. This work gave him greater access to his victims and allowed him to gather information about them. For example, Nordo typically volunteered to transport inmates and witnesses for other detectives. These transports allowed Nordo to meet more potential victims and mask his interactions with his victims. Further, Nordo often created and submitted packets documenting a witness/tipster's involvement in an investigation to crime-reward programs, allowing Nordo to fraudulently divert up to \$20,000.00 in funds from the Mayor's Office's Crime Reward Program ("CRP") to individuals and victims of his choosing.
7. During his initial meetings with his victims and potential victims, Nordo would start by discussing something related to their case, such as general law enforcement business or the victim's potential to act as a confidential informant. Nordo used this small talk to get victims to drop their guard and make the conversation more comfortable. After this introduction, he would then veer into other more personal topics—[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]. Nordo discussed these personal topics to test the person's reaction and their likelihood to resist or comply. At the end of these initial meetings, Nordo would give the victim his contact information, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

8. Nordo often intimidated witnesses or attempted to impair the credibility or availability of witnesses. For instance, Nordo often prominently displayed his firearm during his crimes. Alternatively, Nordo targeted individuals who were in custody and often restrained with handcuffs and/or leg shackles—his dominating position reduced the individuals' ability to resist or report the assault. Nordo admonished several victims that if they came forward to report the assault, authorities would not believe the victims because he was a detective and they were not. Nordo implied that coming forward would cause serious problems for them. Nordo also repeatedly contacted young men whom he sought to groom, sometimes over long periods of time. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

9. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
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[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

11. Nordo used his power and position to coerce and intimidate his potential victims. He groomed them to submit to his sexually coercive advances by gaining their trust and bestowing favors on them. After these periods of grooming, Nordo sexually assaulted them.

\_\_\_\_\_

at 3901 Whitaker Avenue.

EDD's headquarters to investigate an allegation of indecent sexual assault made by [REDACTED]

█████ admitted involvement in the robbery and that he had used drugs that night

\_\_\_\_\_

1. The first step in the process is to identify the problem or issue that needs to be addressed. This involves gathering information and understanding the context of the problem.

touched him and massaged [REDACTED] penis. During the assault, Nordo kissed [REDACTED] on

continue masturbating. He asked if [REDACTED] was done yet; [REDACTED] replied, "Yes." [REDACTED] ejaculated while Nordo was out of the room and then cleaned himself with a piece of paper, balled it up, and threw it on the floor. Nordo then asked "Do you want to put that in my mouth?" He also asked [REDACTED] if he was anxious. [REDACTED] did not reply. Afterwards, Nordo gave [REDACTED] a cigarette, which [REDACTED] smoked. [REDACTED] extinguished the cigarette in his ejaculate.

18. [REDACTED] was transported to a cell in the first floor of EDD. He reported the assault the next day, after the police shifts had changed.

19. On April 10, 2005, [REDACTED] was working in the cell room at EDD. During his shift, [REDACTED] repeatedly told [REDACTED] "I got to talk to you." Based on [REDACTED] demeanor, [REDACTED] believed that [REDACTED] wanted to tell him something different from a typical detainee concern, e.g. asking for a phone call or food. [REDACTED] stopped doing what he was doing and opened the cell to ask [REDACTED] "What's the problem?" [REDACTED] replied that the white detective who took him upstairs had "sexually harassed" him.

20. [REDACTED] asked [REDACTED] what had happened. [REDACTED] told him that the detective had kissed him and forced him to masturbate. While [REDACTED] spoke to [REDACTED], [REDACTED] appeared anxious—his body was shaking and his voice was quivering. [REDACTED] told [REDACTED] that he would get a supervisor. [REDACTED] notified [REDACTED] about the allegation and moved [REDACTED] from the cellblock to a more private area where he could talk to [REDACTED] then left [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] alone while they spoke.

21. After that conversation, [REDACTED] told [REDACTED] that he wanted to take [REDACTED] upstairs to the interview rooms. All three went to the area of the interview rooms. When they got to the room where [REDACTED] was interviewed and assaulted, he told [REDACTED] [REDACTED] that they were in the correct room. [REDACTED] then identified where he had sat. He also showed [REDACTED] where he had ejaculated. [REDACTED] statement to IAD shows that when he spoke with [REDACTED] related the following:

- i. Nordo said he "didn't have anything to worry about with this case. That he was talking about other topics with the detective, which then lead [sic] into [REDACTED]"
- ii. Nordo asked if he was interested in [REDACTED] [REDACTED] said he stayed quiet. [REDACTED] then told him that Nordo said that they could both make a lot of money from it.
- iii. Nordo asked to see his penis. [REDACTED] was shocked. When Nordo asked [REDACTED] if he was scared to show himself, [REDACTED] took his penis out of his pants. Nordo then walked over, grabbed his penis, and began to rub it.
- iv. While [REDACTED] was rubbing it, the Detective kissed him on the right corner of his lips. Eventually [REDACTED] ejaculated and put the cigarette out in the ejaculate.

22. After [REDACTED] spoke with [REDACTED], they placed him in an isolation cell by himself so he would be easier to observe. Following this assistance from the new shift of police officers, [REDACTED] appeared to have calmed down to a more normal demeanor.

23. On April 10, 2005, [REDACTED] the Crime Scene Unit collected samples of a white-colored substance from the floor of the interview room in which Nordo interviewed [REDACTED]. They also retrieved a cigarette butt and a crumpled piece of paper from the floor.

24. Scientific testing showed that the white-colored substance was [REDACTED] ejaculate. Criminal analysts found high levels of acid phosphates, a component of human semen. They confirmed their suspicion with microscopic examination of the samples, which revealed the presence of sperm. Later DNA analysis of the samples concluded, to an extremely high mathematical probability (1 in 9.69 quintillion in the random unrelated African American population), that [REDACTED] DNA was present in the sample.

25. These events occurred more than ten years before the date of this Presentment.

26. [REDACTED] was murdered in 2015, and his murder remains unsolved.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

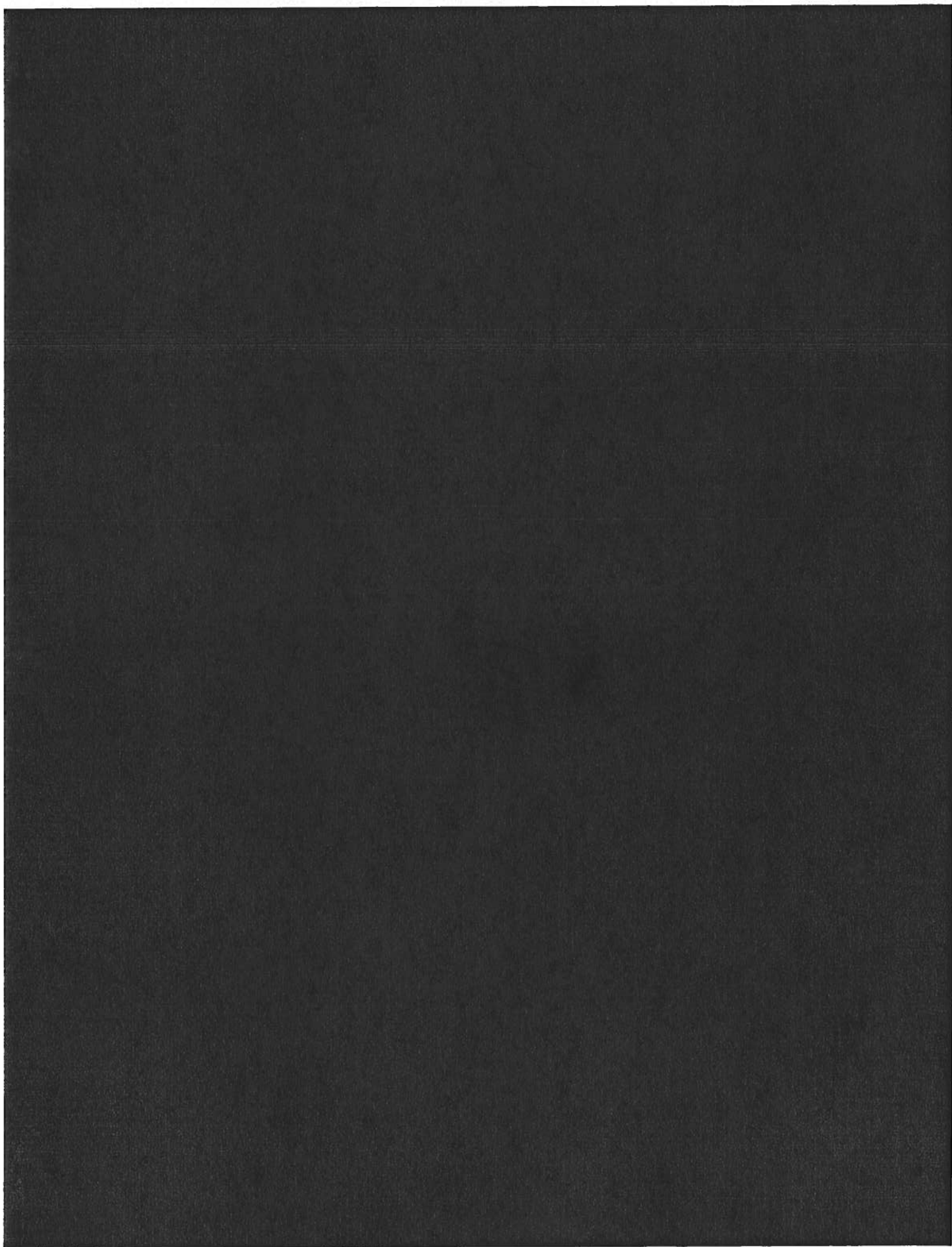
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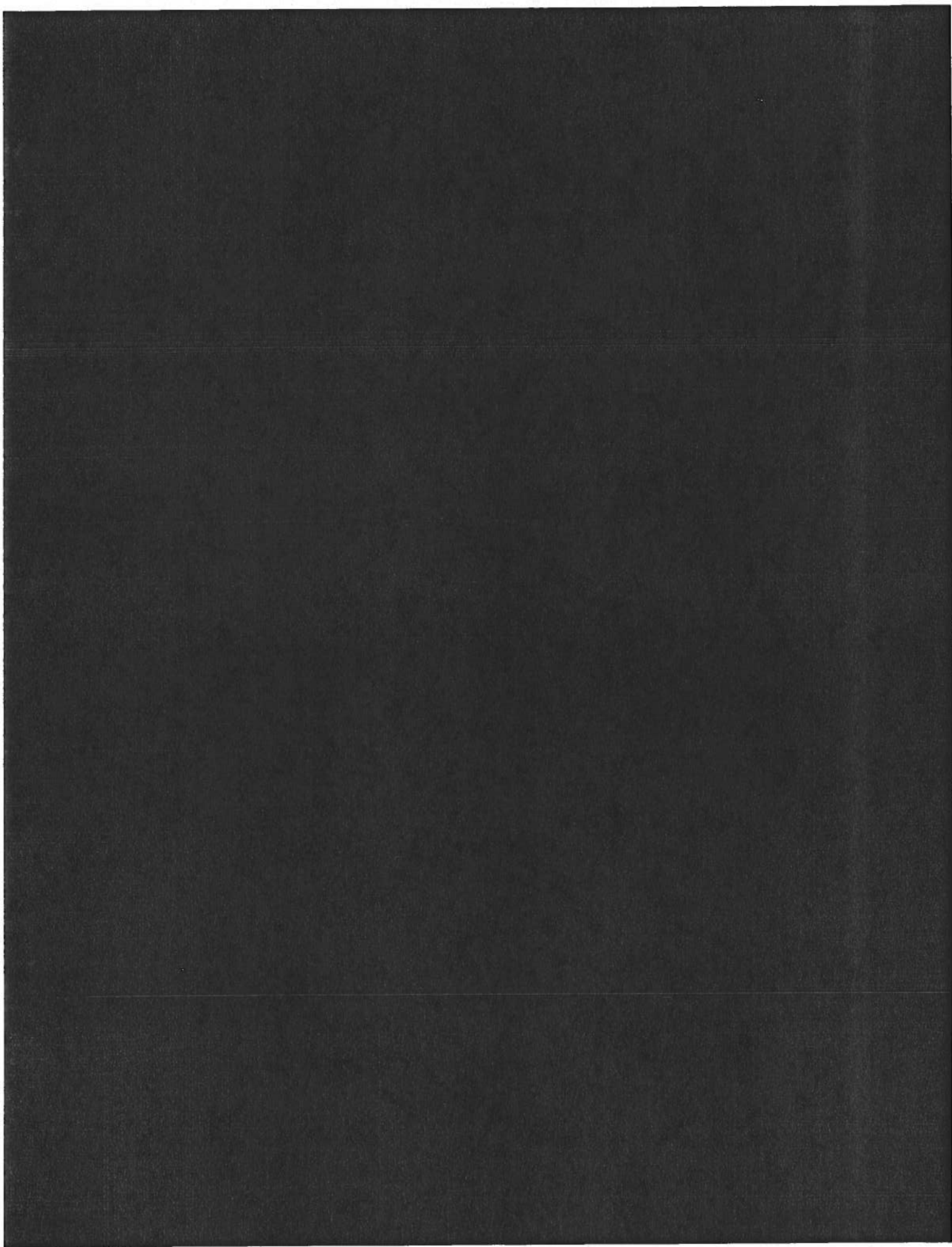
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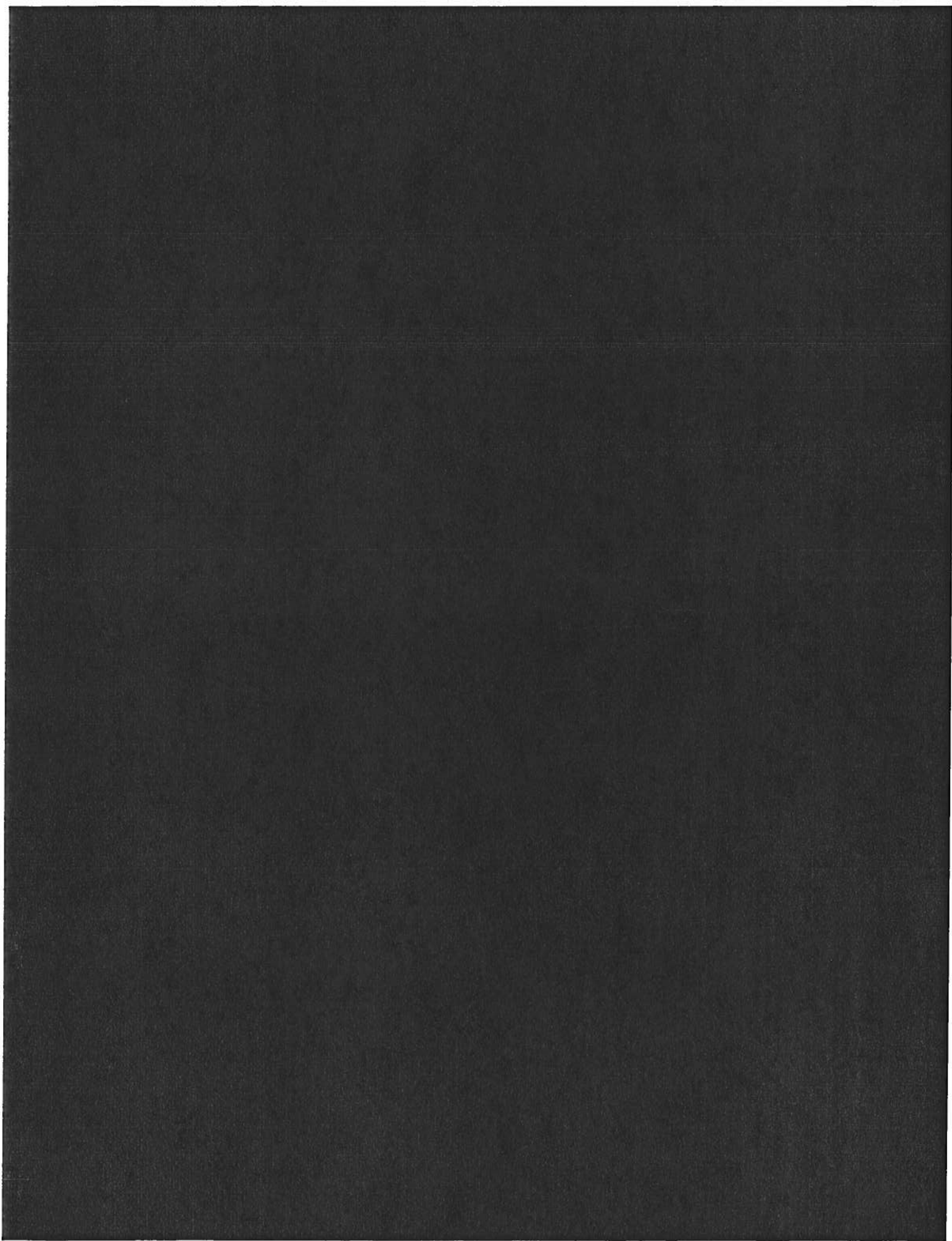
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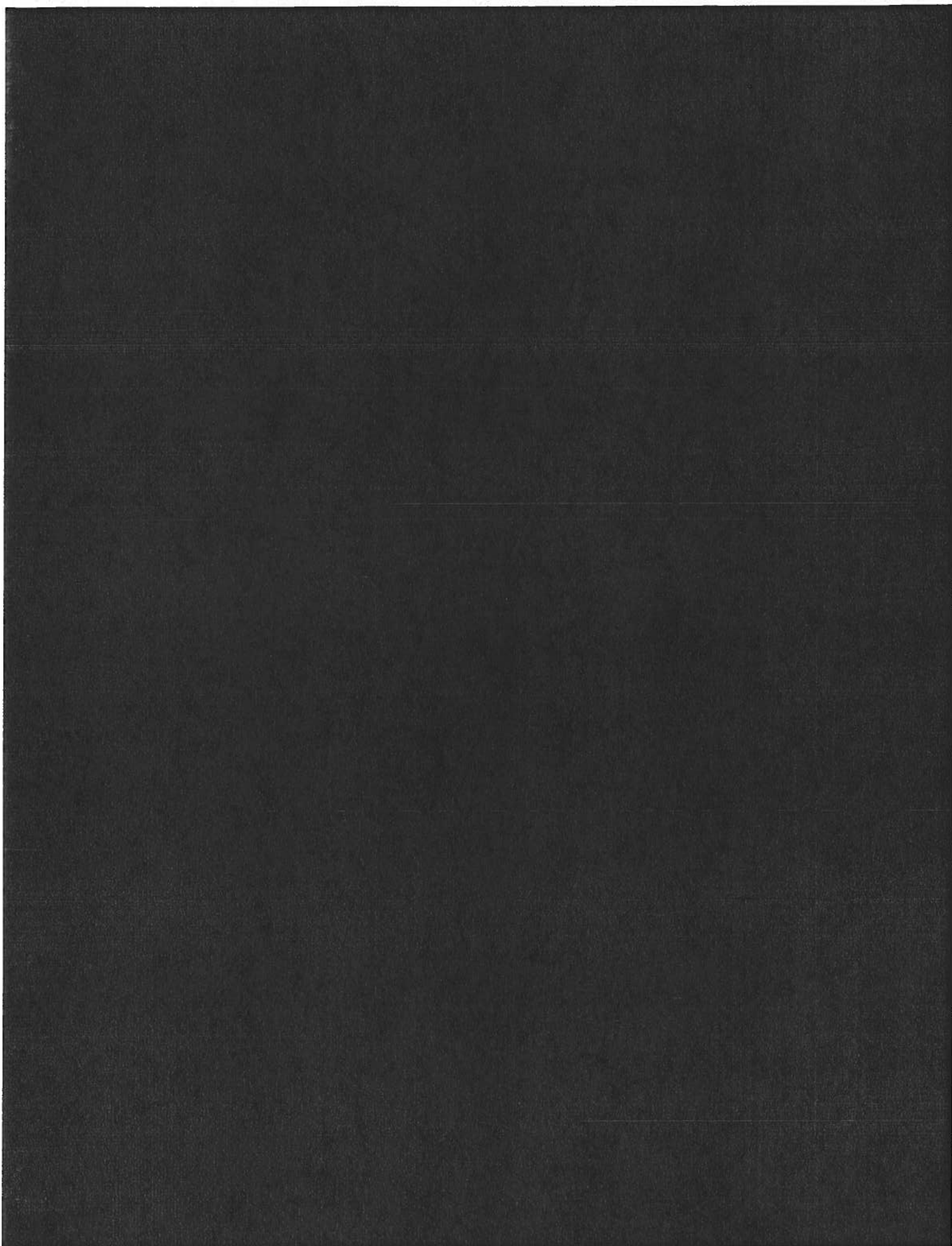
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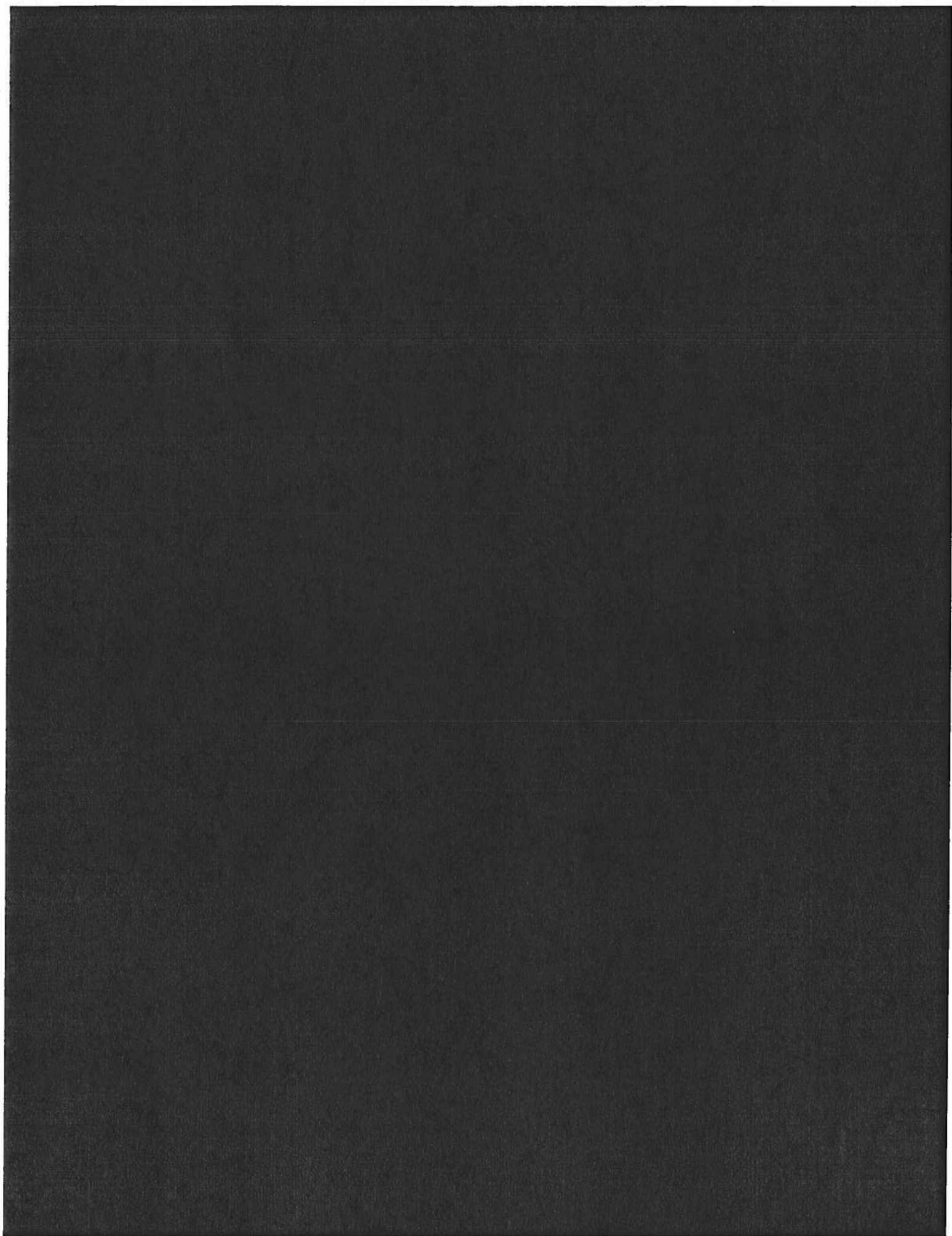
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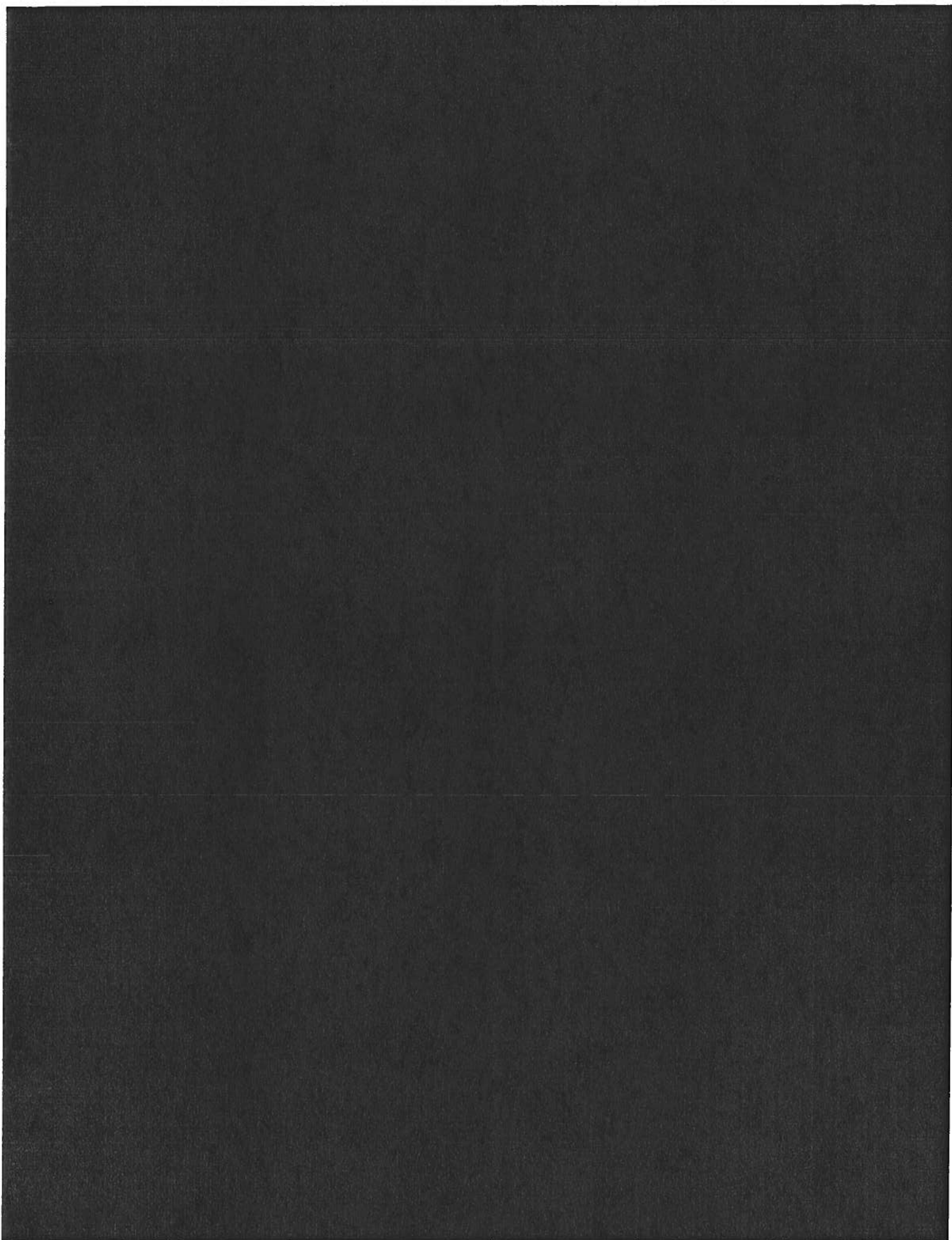


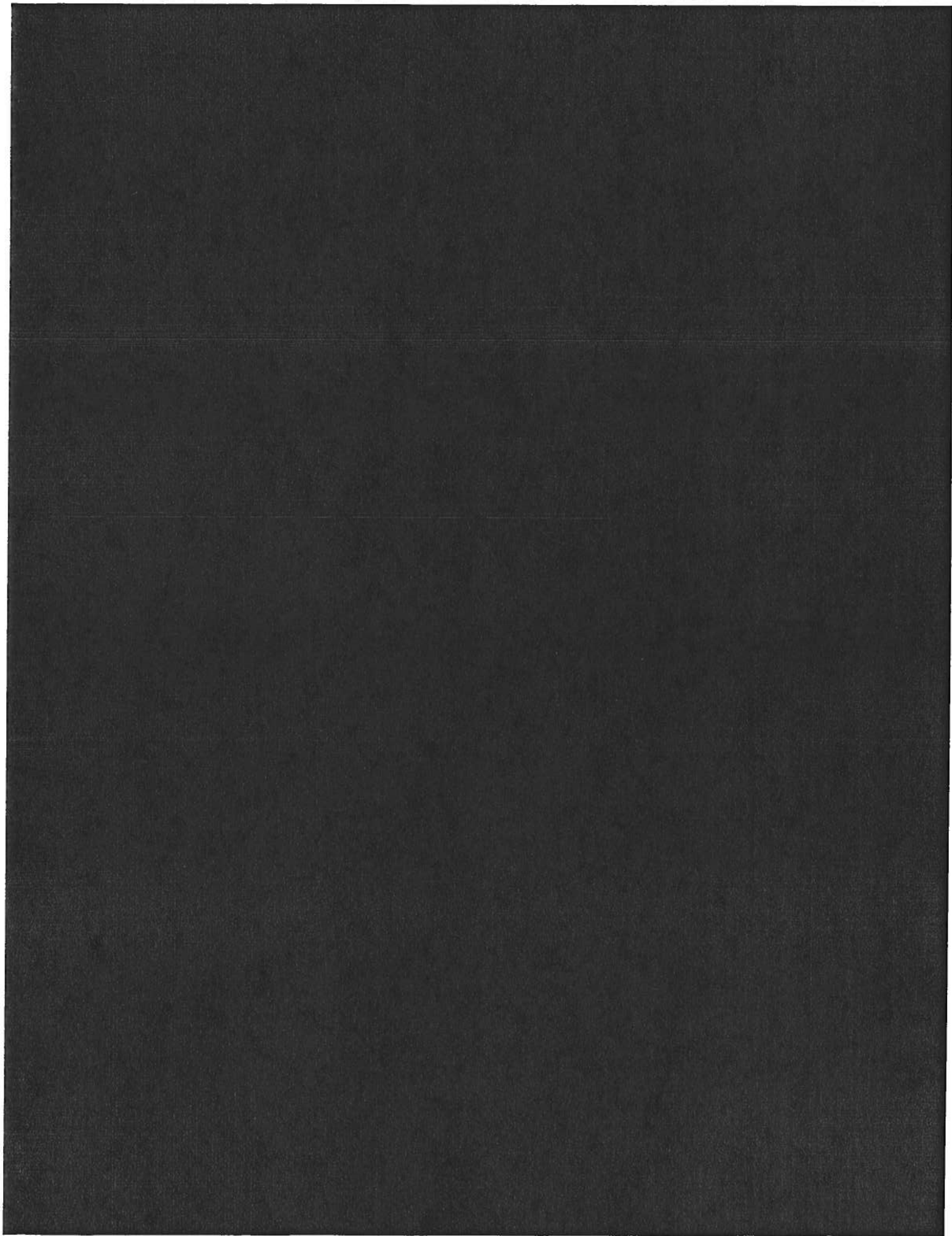


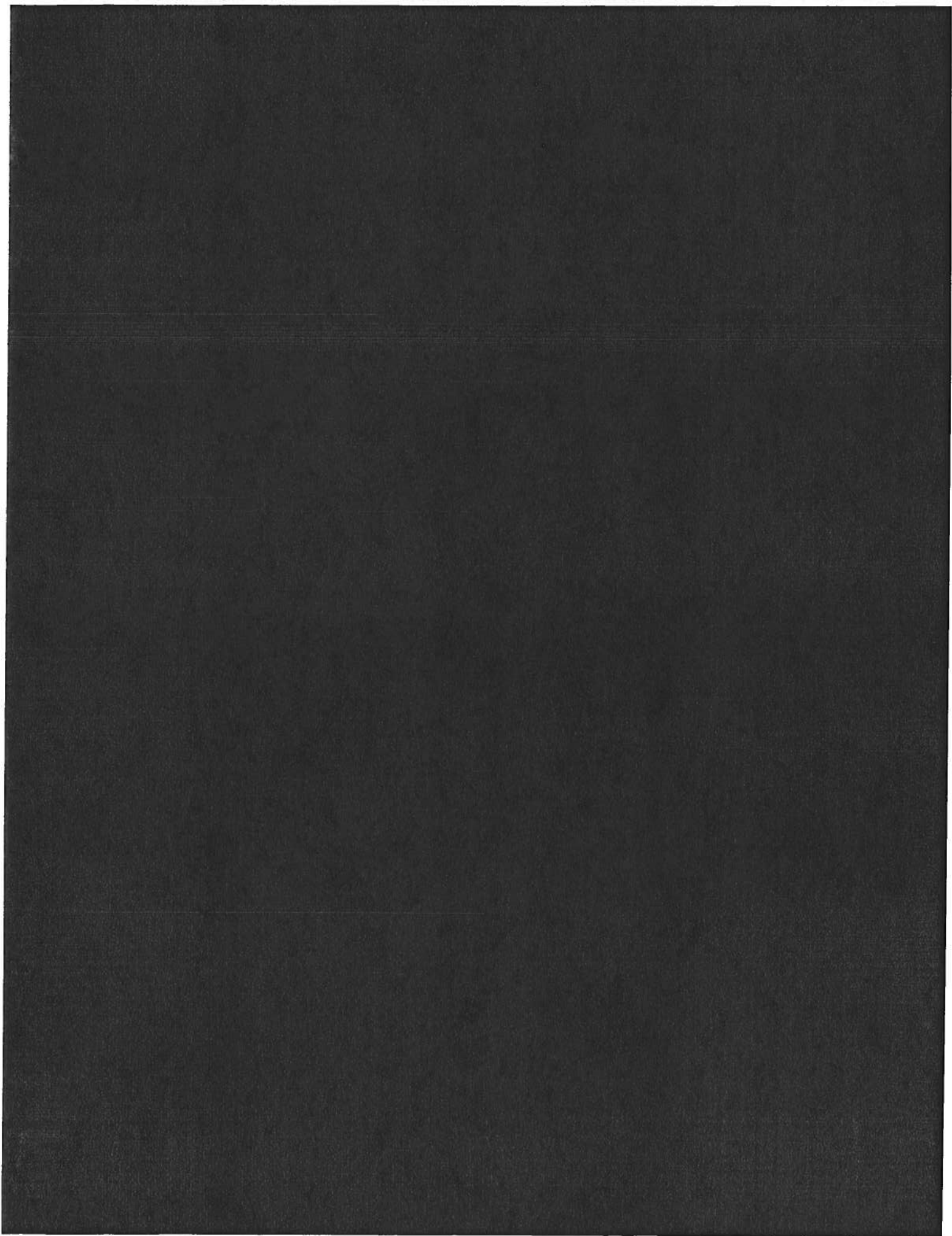


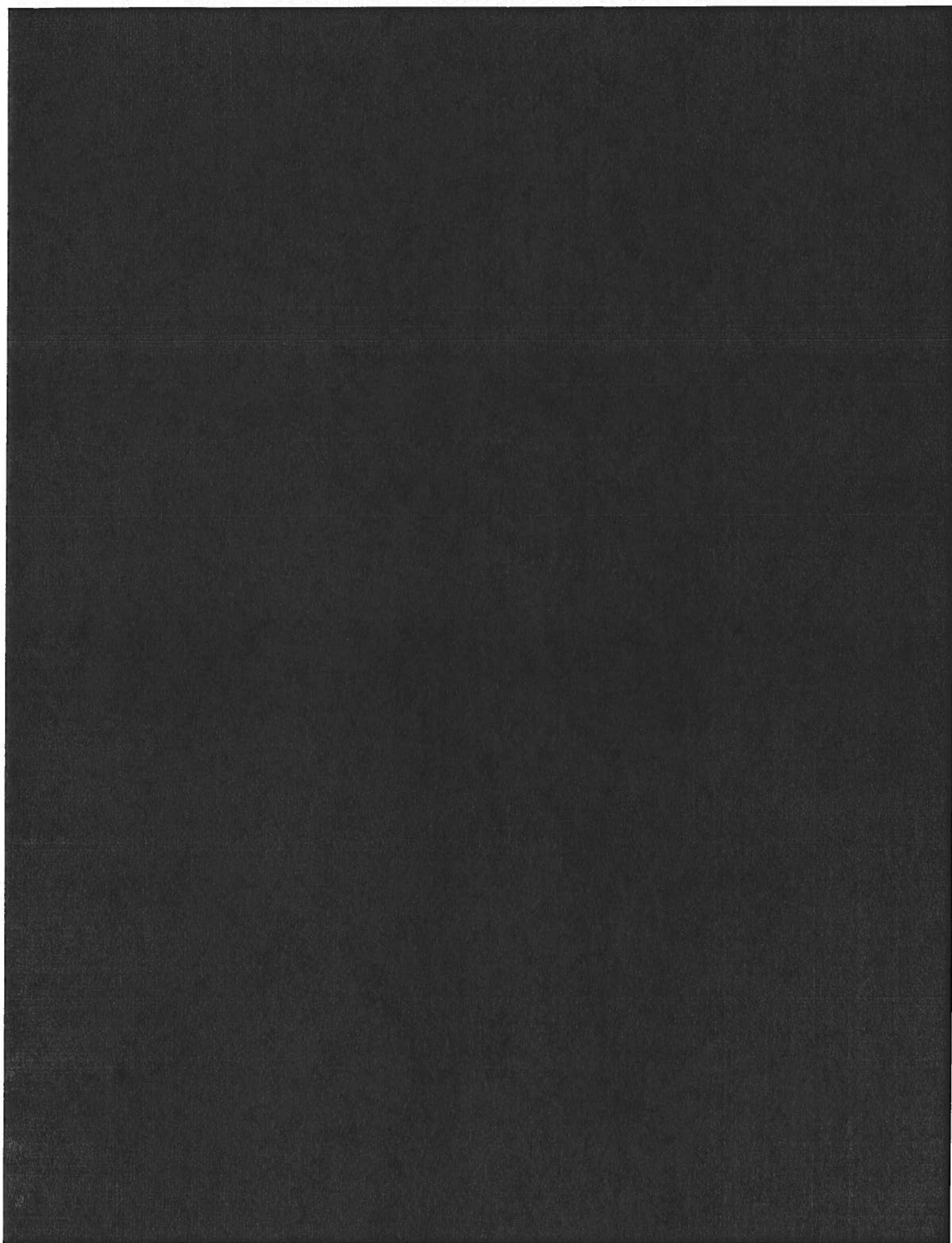


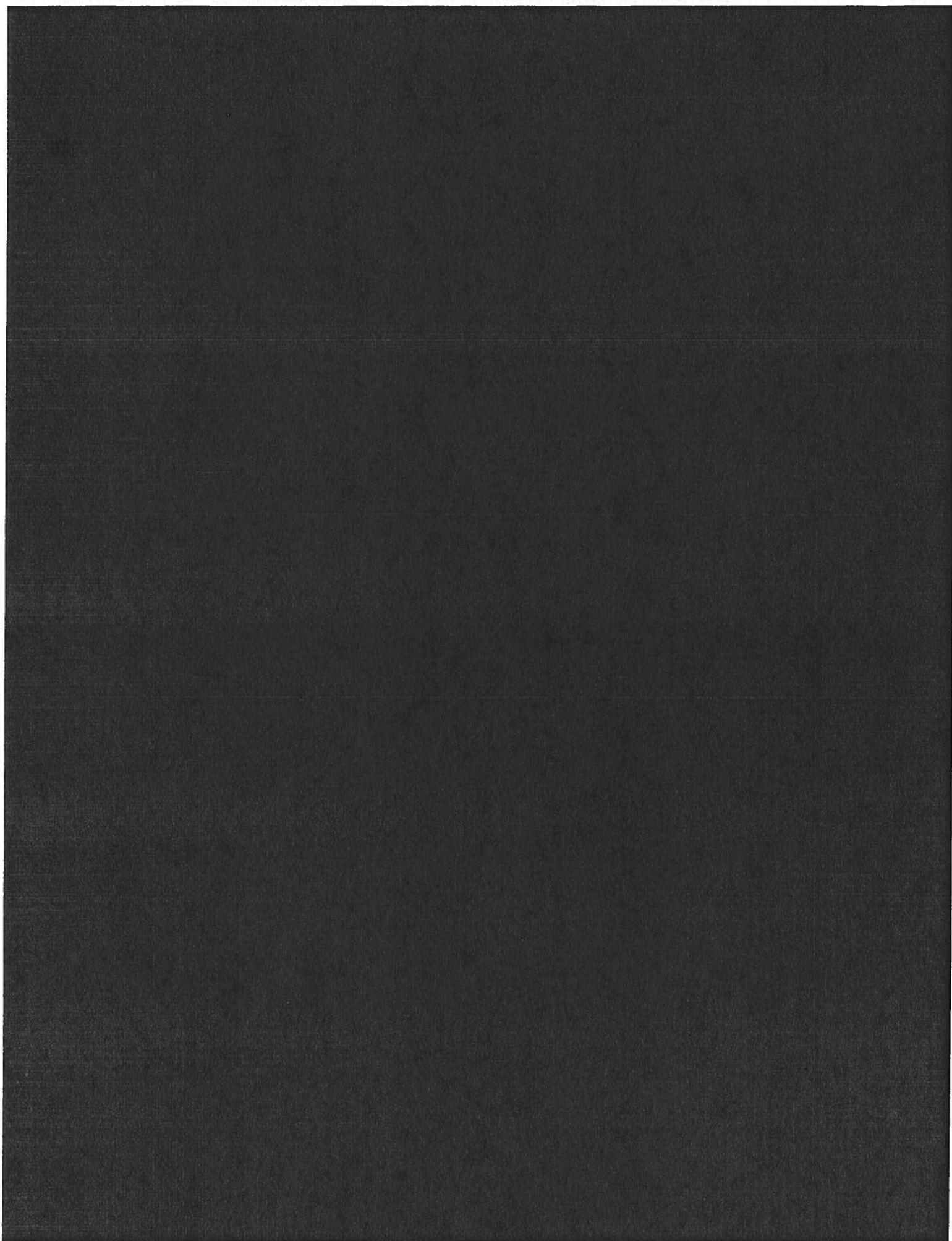


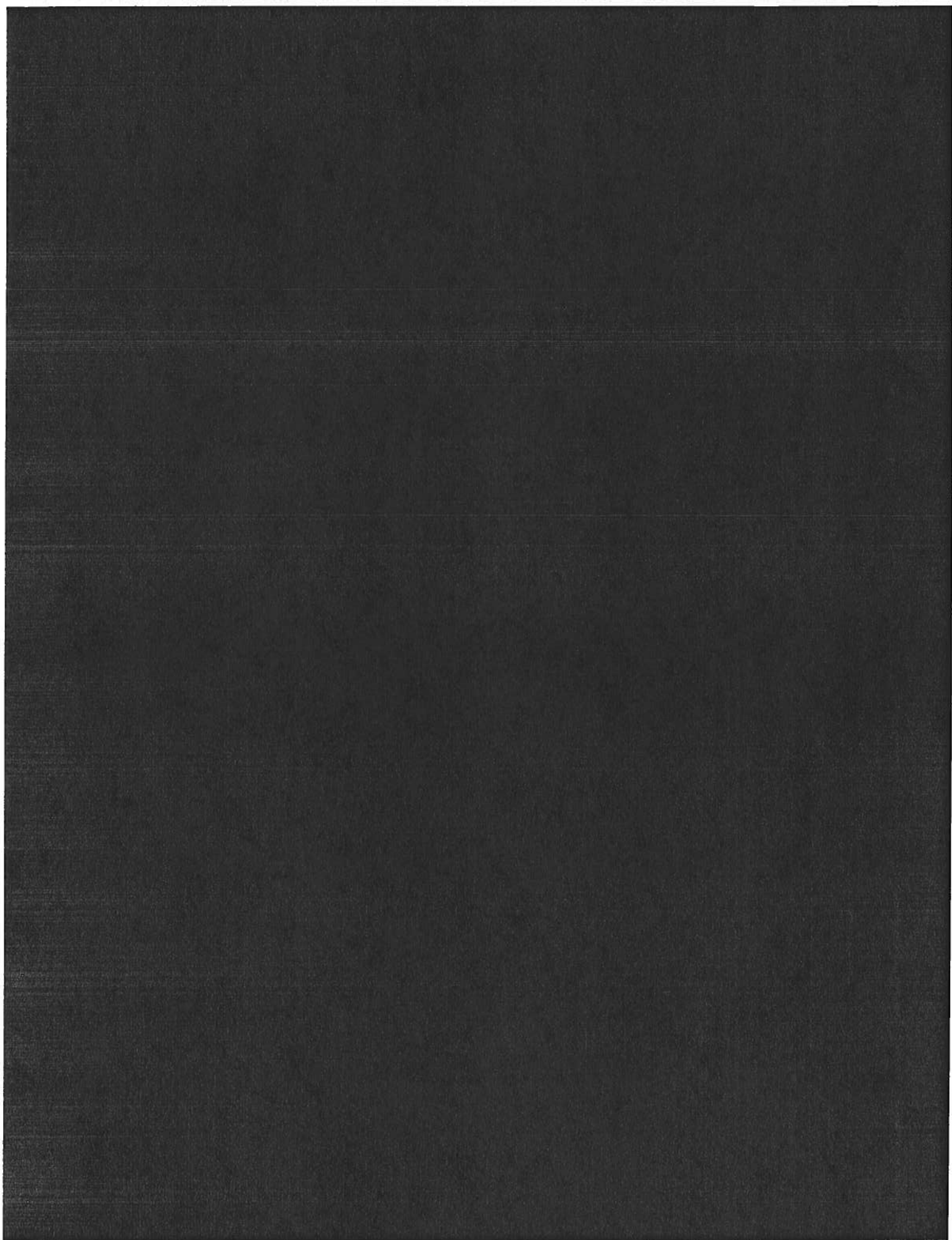


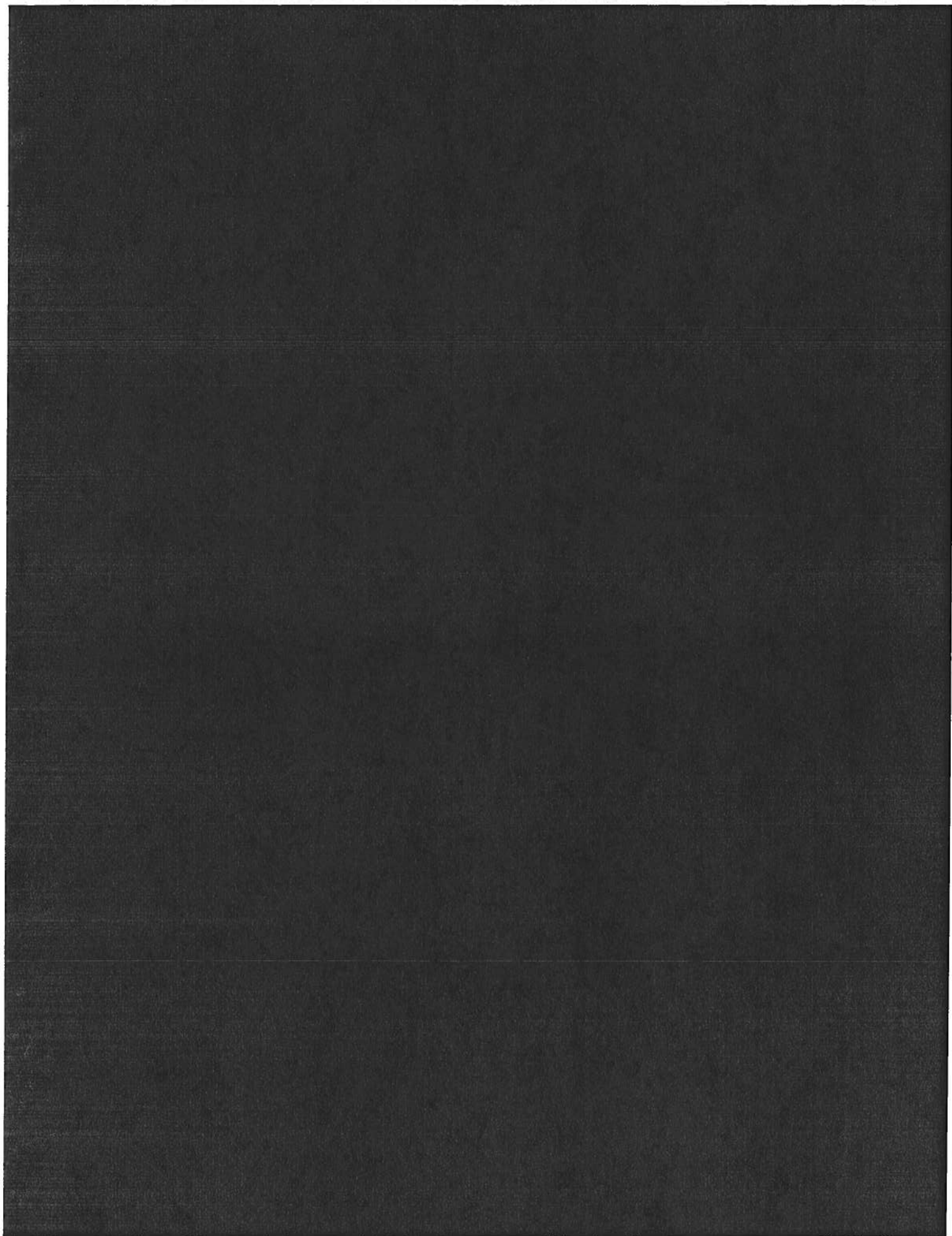


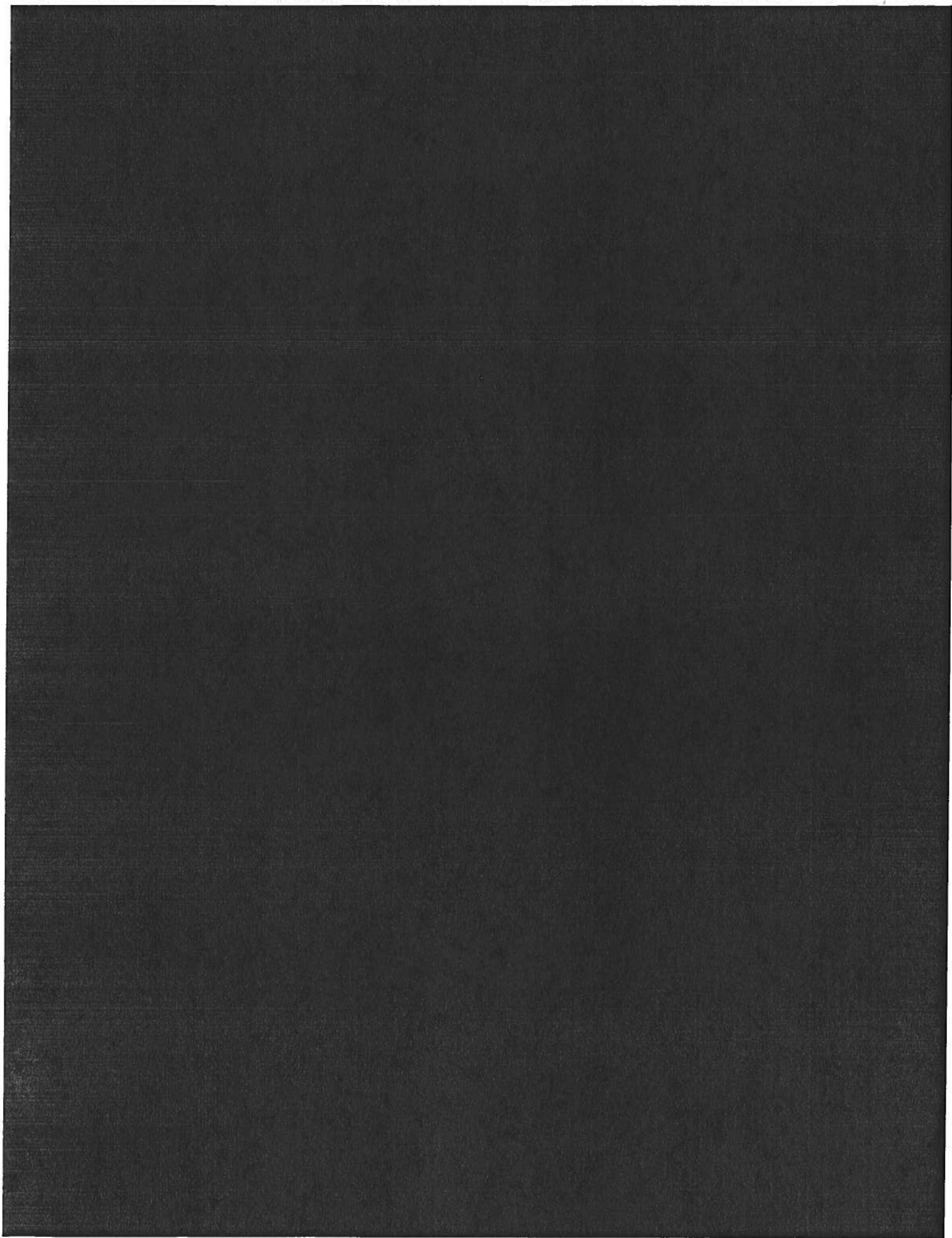


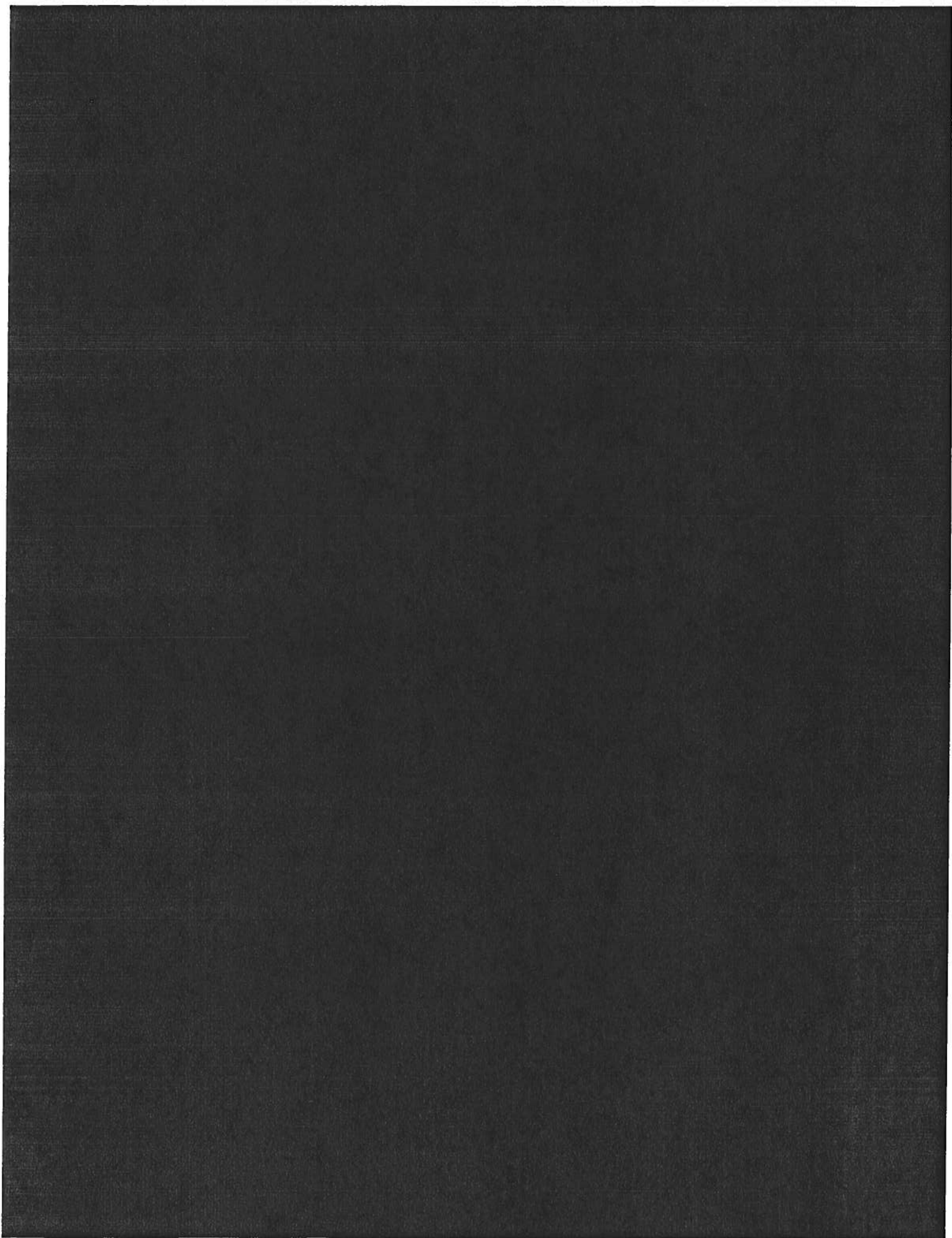


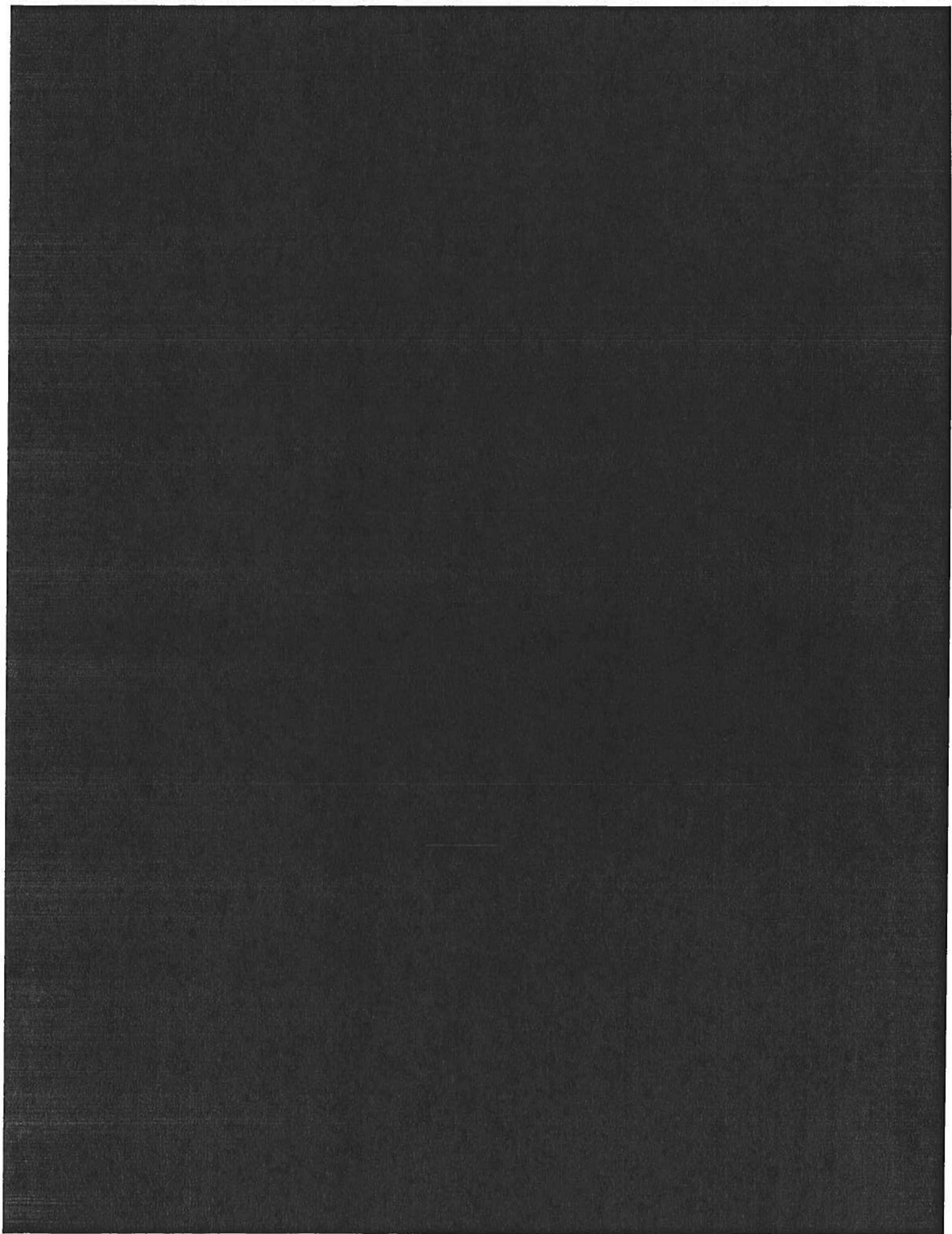


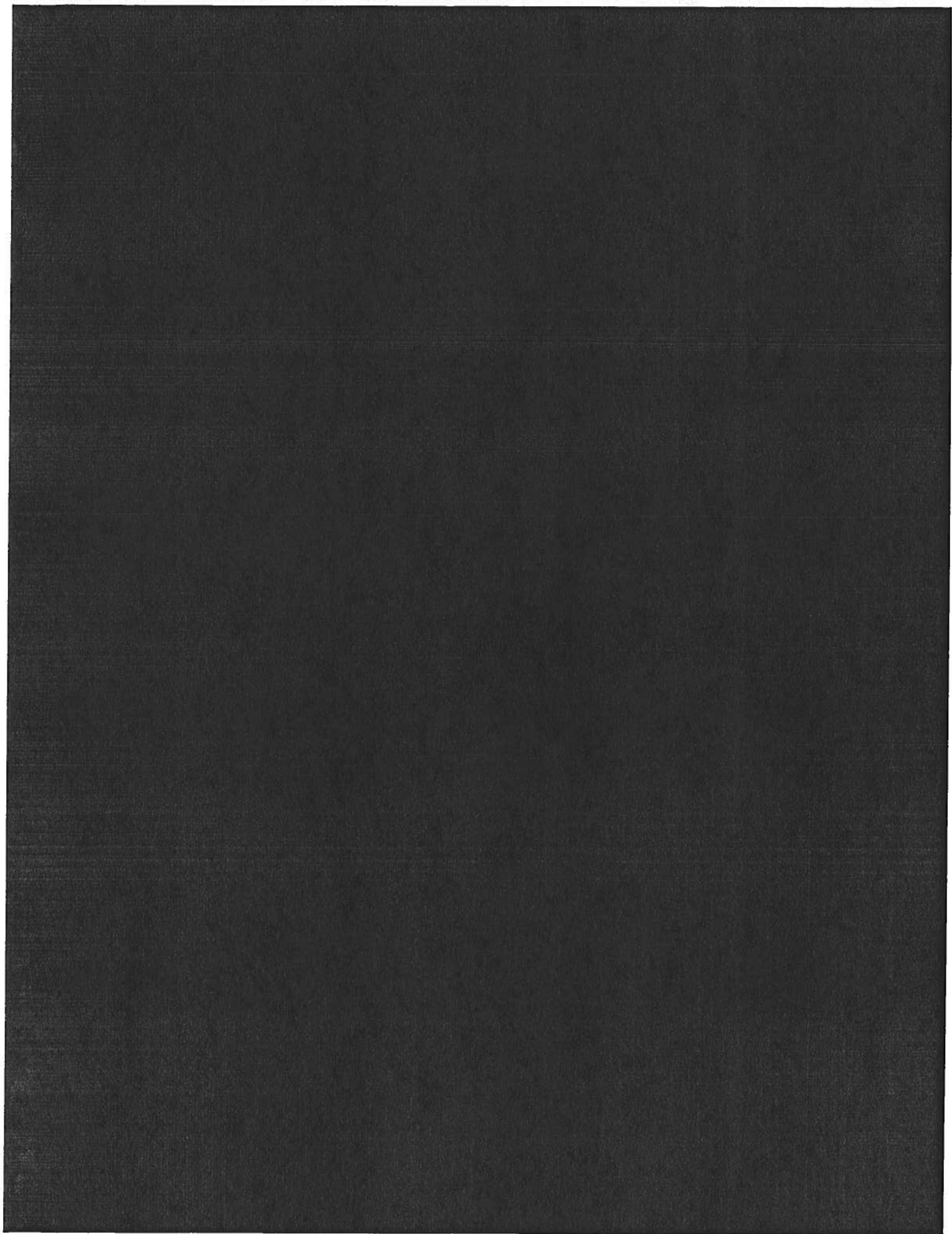


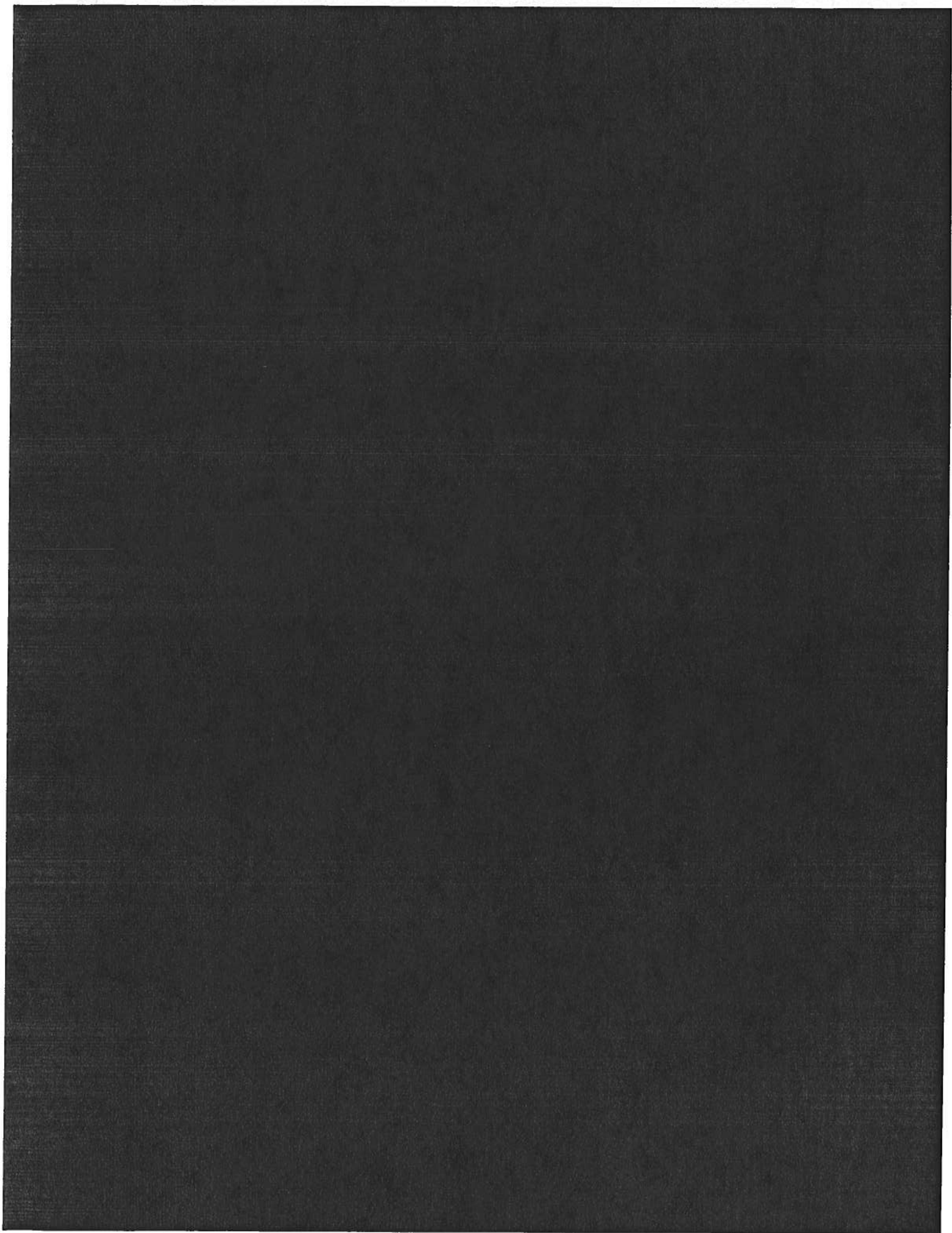


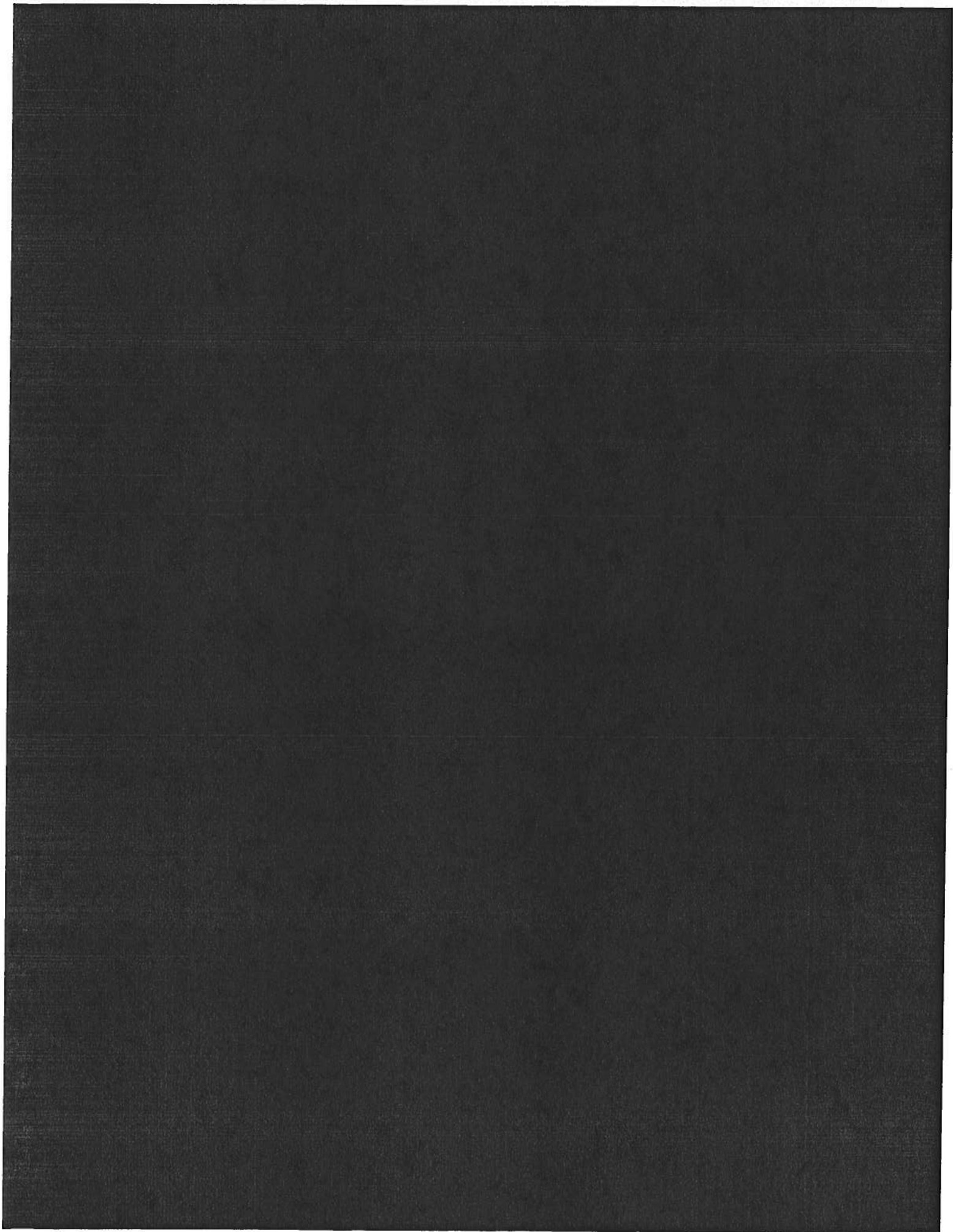


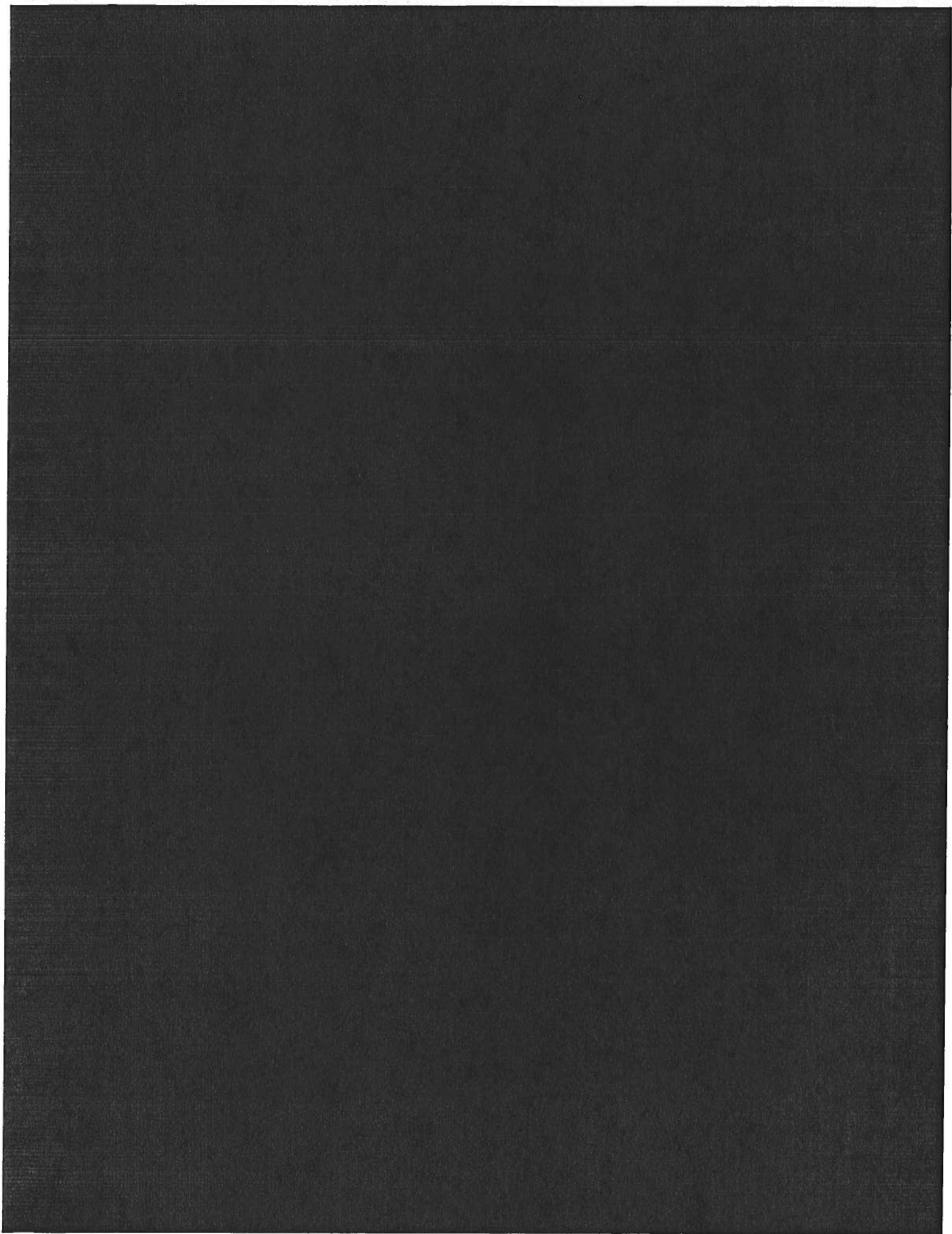


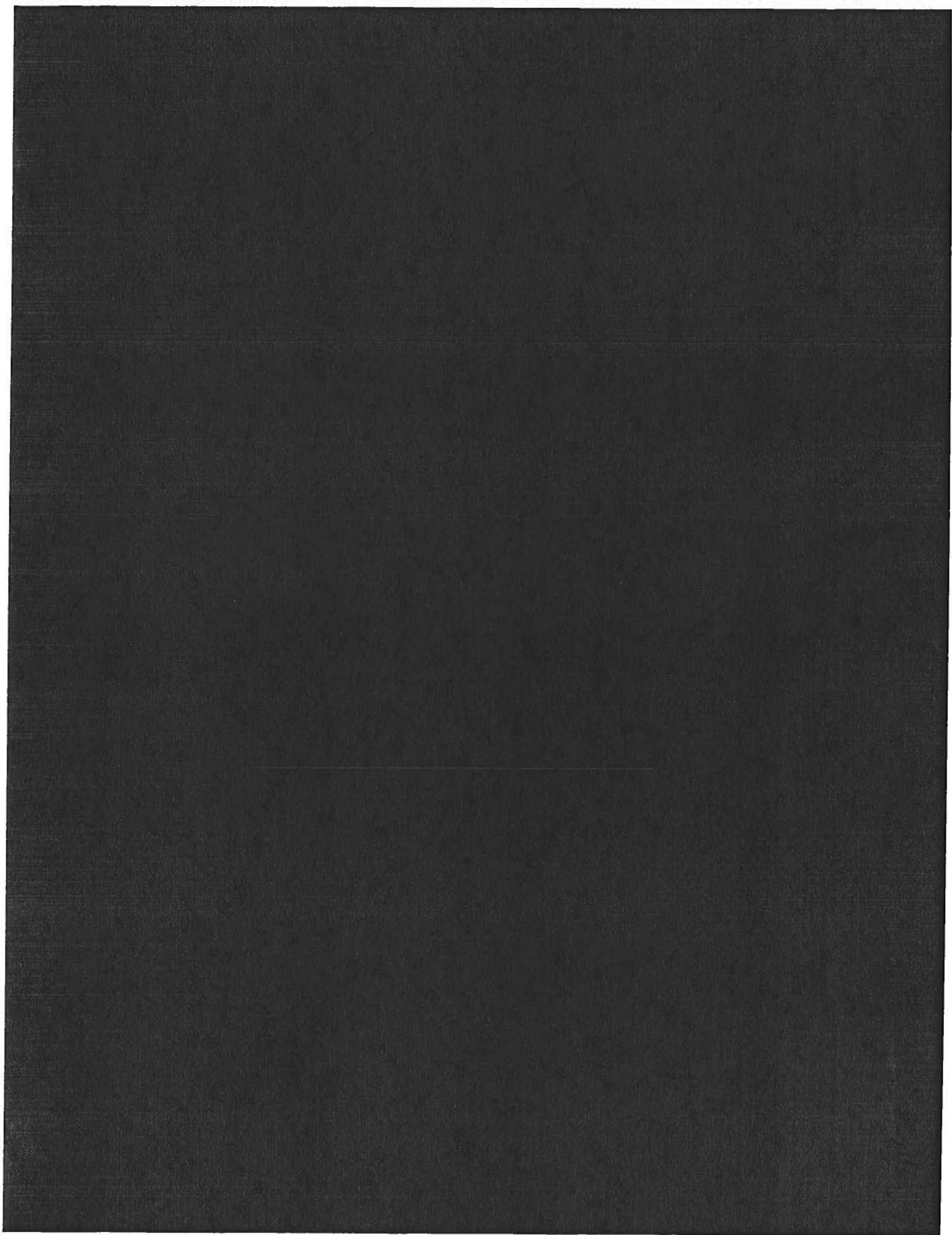


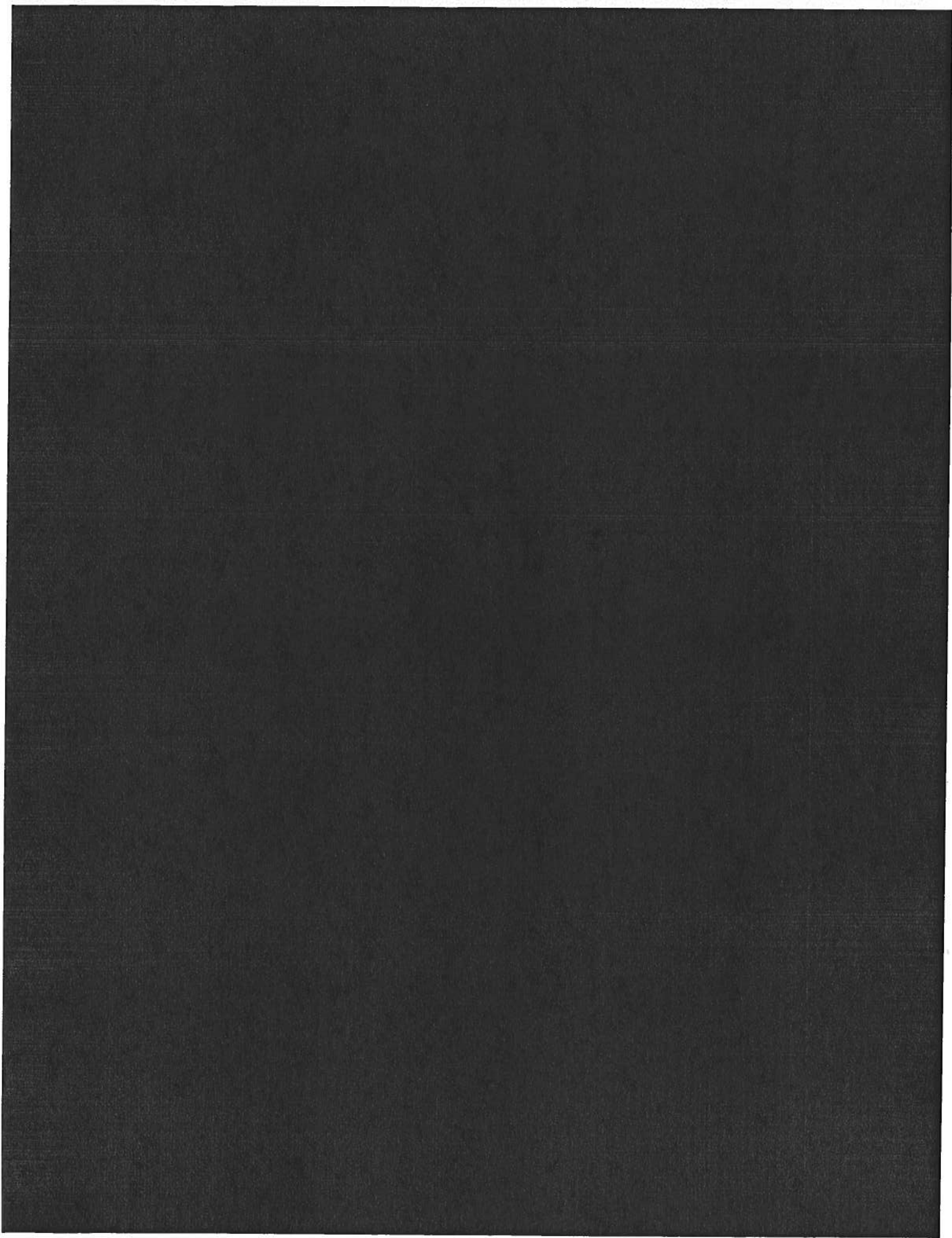


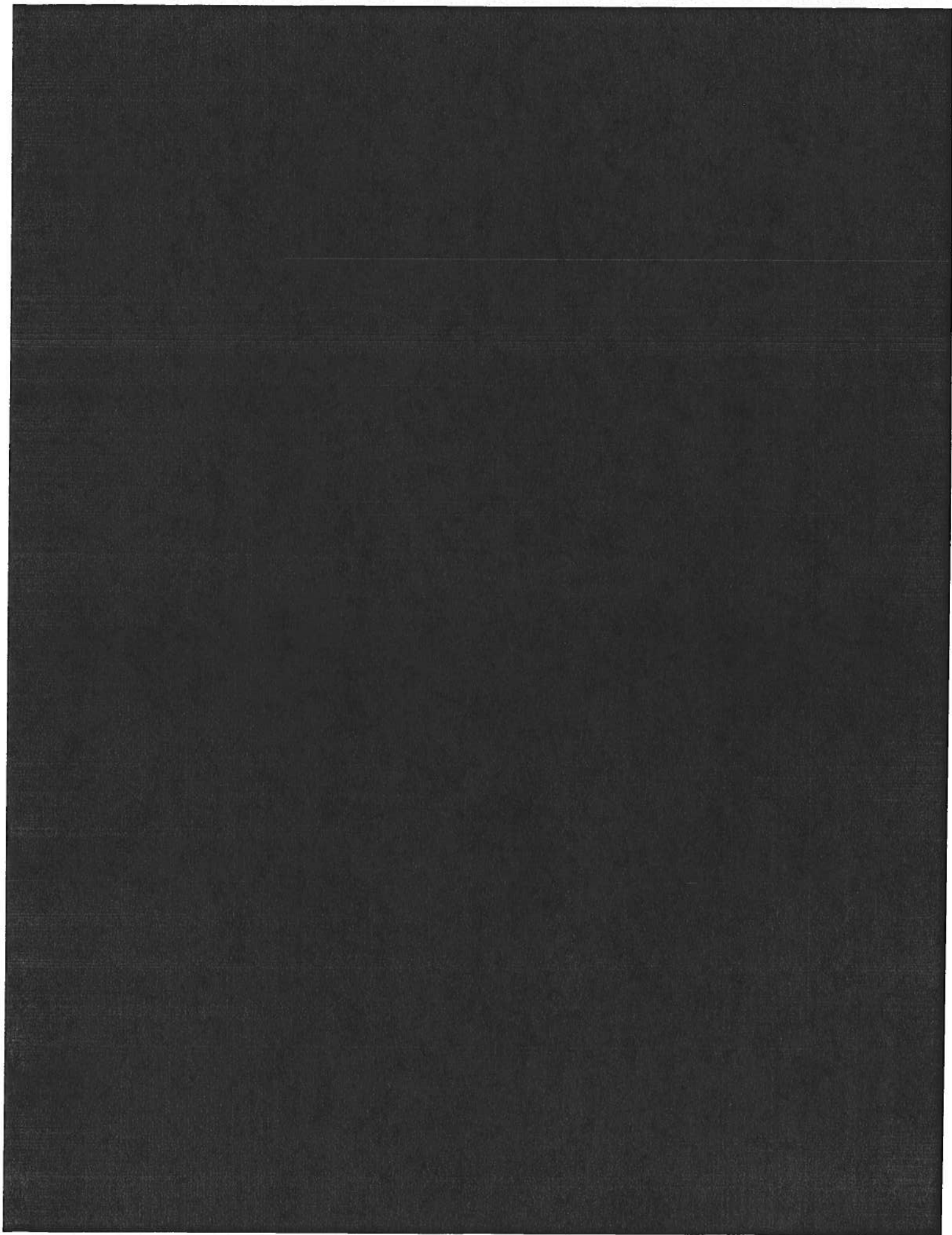












## RECOMMENDATION OF CHARGES

Based upon the evidence that we have obtained and considered, which establishes a *prima facie* case, we, the members of the 29<sup>th</sup> Philadelphia County Investigating Grand Jury recommend that the District Attorney or his designee institute criminal proceedings against defendant Philip Nordo and charge him with the following offenses:

As against [REDACTED]

18 Pa. C.S. § 3121, Rape (F1)

18 Pa. C.S. § 3123, Involuntary Deviate Sexual Intercourse (F1)

18 Pa. C.S. § 3124.1, Sexual Assault (F2)

18 Pa. C.S. § 3126, Indecent Assault (M1) – two counts:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

18 Pa. C.S. § 2709.1, Stalking (M1)

18 Pa. C.S. § 5301, Official Oppression (M2)

As against [REDACTED]

18 Pa. C.S. § 3123, Attempted Involuntary Deviate Sexual Intercourse (F1)

18 Pa. C.S. § 3124.1, Attempted Sexual Assault (F2)

18 Pa. C.S. § 3126, Indecent Assault (M1)

18 Pa. C.S. § 2709.1, Stalking (M1)

18 Pa. C.S. § 5301, Official Oppression (M2)

As against [REDACTED]

18 Pa. C.S. § 3121, Rape (F1) – four counts:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

18 Pa. C.S. § 3123, Involuntary Deviate Sexual Intercourse (F1) – four counts:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

18 Pa. C.S. § 3124.1, Sexual Assault (F2) – four counts:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

18 Pa. C.S. § 3124.2 Institutional Sex Assault (F3) – three counts:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

18 Pa. C.S. § 3126, Indecent Assault (M1) – four counts:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

18 Pa. C.S. § 2709.1, Stalking (M1)

18 Pa. C.S. § 5301, Official Oppression (M2) – four counts:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**As against The City of Philadelphia:**

18 Pa. C.S. § 3922, Theft by Deception (F3)

18 Pa. C.S. § 4114, Securing Execution of Documents by Deception (M2)