FILE NAME: Jewelers (JEWEL)

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July 2, 1987

Mr. Andrew Moore
3367 18th St., Northwest
Washington, DC 20010

RE: Irving Hammer

Dear Mr. Moore:

As we discussed, we would like you to go to the Library of Congress to see if you can find any manufacturers of asbestos board used by jewelers. I have enclosed a copy of the memo to the file giving you a partial work history and describing the boards Mr. Hammer used. Since Mr. Hammer was a jewerler, he received a trades magazine entitled **Jewelers Circular Keystone**. You may be able to go through those from 1940 through present to see whether or not there were any manufacturers listed. You may also try looking through the Sweets Industrial Catalog that is issued annually. Also as you suggested, you may be able to find something by looking through old Thomas Registers. You may try looking under asbestos board or millboard.

We have contacted I. Shor one of the distributors Mr. Hammer remembers back in the 1940's and 1950's, but he does not know who manufactured the asbestos board that they distributed. Peter Shor said he thought it was Asbestos Construction located in Manhattan. There was another distributor that distributed to Mr. Hammer by the name of M. Harris, but we are unable to locate them, as they may be out of business. There is a possibility that you may locate them by looking in old telephone books.

This will also confirm that you will charge us $20.00 per hour. We have enclosed our check in the amount of $100.00 as an advance. Dr. Castleman asked that you contact him before getting started as he may have other information for you.

We look forward to hearing from you. Call me collect if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Mitzi Ellis

MITZI ELLIS
Legal Assistant

ME/kjg

Enclosures

MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 10, 1987

TO: File

FROM: Mitzi Ellis Mitzi

SUBJECT: **IRVING HAMMER**

Mr. & Mrs. Irving Isadore Hammer was in our office on February 3, 1987 and was referred to us by Mario J. Saldana, M.D. Dr. Saldana has diagnosed Mr. Hammer as having Mesothelioma, although a hospital in New York diagnosed it as an Adenocarcinoma.

Mr. Hammer has been a jeweler since ~~1957~~ 1938 and was employed for himself from 1957 to 1974. During this period of time he was exposed to asbestos by using asbestos board, which was used to prevent his bench or table from burning when using a blowtorch to fix or make jewelry. During the time that he was employed for himself, his distributors for the asbestos board was M. Harris on Canal Street in New York City, New York and I. Shore at 47th Street in New York City, New York. After 1974 he moved to Florida where he was employed as a jeweler for the Gold Mine Jewelers, 5540 W. Oakland Park Blvd., Lauderhill, Florida 33319. Their suppliers for the asbestos board was Rosenthal in Miami.

There were two types of boards that he used. One he called a hard asbestos board which he said actually created no dust, although there would be nicks in it and there could be asbestos fiber in the air, but none that he really could see other than the nicks in the board. The other was a soft asbestos board and it did have lots of nicks in it and flaked all day long and did create a dust, which he used a lot. He also said that the color of the board would be white and then it turns gray from the heat. He states that the boards were approximately 11"x11" and he also used smaller oblong pads. He stated that they would approximately 1/4" thick.

He also states that he does not want his past employer, Gold Mine Jewelers to know about the lawsuit if possible. Please under no circumstances to contact them without going through him first.

A discussion was also held between Mr. Reed Bryan and Mr. Hammer concerning the fact that may be a possible malpractice suit involved. Mr. Bryan advised him that we should put this on the back burner until after the asbestos lawsuit got going. At that time, once we receive the medical records we would get with him and discuss the possible malpractice suit.

Mitzi

kjg

cc: Reed Bryan
Bryan Duke