

291-1170

April 22, 1982

REDACTED

Mr. Richard Baum
180 North LaSalle
Chicago, Illinois 60601

Re: Sherwin Williams
Claim No. A0422

Dear Mr. Baum,

I appreciated very much receiving the container of the multiple pathology slides from you pertaining to the right thoractomy with multiple biopsies that had been carried out on Mr. at the Little Company Of Mary Hospital on December 5, 1981.

I jointly reviewed all of the above slides microscopically with Dr. Lawrence J. McCormack in the Pathology Department at the Cleveland Clinic on April 20, 1982. (Dr. McCormack is the senior Pathologist at the Clinic, recently completed two years as president of the College of American Pathologists and has had a major interest and experience and worked with me for years at the Clinic on environmental lung problems.)

In our microscopic study we were unable to disagree with the diagnosis of the medical records you have received. These slides do show all of the criteria for diagnosis of a pleural mesothelioma (malignant fibrous mesothelioma). We were unable to visualize any asbestos fibers nor asbestos bodies, but did find evidence under the microscope of what we felt was probably thickened pleura with the characteristics of being the so-called pleural plaque and which is interpreted as being indicative of asbestos exposure and causation.

In summary, as a consultant, I do concur in the diagnosis of Mr. having developed a malignant mesothelioma and with feeling with reasonable medical certainty that I would feel unable to disprove it as being of occupational relationship provided that any or all of the three allegations of his attorney are correct; meaning 1. from asbestos in a paint product of work exposure, and/or 2. from asbestos sprayed on the walls and ceiling of the work place and/or 3. from an old work building which was claimed to have a hung asbestos ceiling that was crumbling.

In advance to your receipt of this letter, I hope to have the opportunity to discuss this claimant's problem. As indicated in my prior letter to you, I do not believe that there is evidence that asbestos is the cause of all mesotheliomas but we have not as yet been able to demonstrate other etiology.

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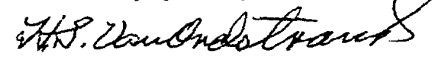
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The canister of pathology slides are being mailed back to you under separate cover.

Sincerely yours,



H.S. VanOrdstrand, M.D.

HSV/mch

cc: Steven Borgstrom