PLAINTIFF'S
EXHIBIT
BRK-258

Co File

May 22, 1979

The Industrial Commission
Of Ohio
Division Of Safety & Hygiene
246 N. High St., Col., O. 43215

Legal Section
Industrial Commission of Ohio
246 N. High St.
1st Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215

O.D. 14038-22
Regina B. Branch
Fisher Body Div.
General Motors Corp.
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Attn: Guy Sheaffer

Dear Mr. Sheaffer:

On April 27, 1979, a visit was made to the Fisher Body Division of the General Motors Corporation, 200 Georgesville Road, Columbus, to observe the working conditions under which Regina B. Branch, was employed. Contact was initiated at the plant with Mr. R.F. Denham, Supervisor of Employee Benefits and Mr. Russell Evans, Safety Director.

Mr. Denham provided the claimant's employment record for a thorough, first hand examination. With patient effort, it was eventually gleaned from the records that she worked in Department #4.

Mr. Evans explained that Department 4 was set up to manufacture automobile door frames. Rolling mills, benders and presses were employed in the forming of cold rolled steel sheet.

It is important to note here that no painting operations were ever conducted in the area and claimant was never assigned any work associated with paints.

The plant site once assigned to Department 4 has been modified since the claimant was last employed there. It is currently designated as being Department 1, but still devoted to manufacturing basically similiar products. Because of the changes in the production area and extended lapsed time, an industrial hygiene survey would serve no purpose with regard to the claim under consideration. It was, however, decided that a review of the work area and procedures utilized in Department 1 could yield something that would have the potential for inducing or enhancing the development of the claimant's alleged occupational disease.

Mr. Denham conducted the tour of Department 1. The survey of the equipment, processes and materials failed to reveal anything which would normally have an adverse effect on a worker's health or well being. Good housekeeping practices are strictly adhered to. Air washers are located overhead in order to eliminate airborne nuisance particulates. The latest in machinery and manufacturing techniques are employed in the production of items such as automobile door frames.

It is the investigator's opinion that conditions in the area where Regina B. Branch worked did not contribute to her illness. The evidence, as interpreted by the investigator, would not support her claim for an occupationally related disease.

Respectfully submitted,

Herbert K. Fujii, P.E.
Industrial Hygiene Engineer

HKF/nlg