

May 13, 1988

Mr. Craig D. Lowry
Chief, Compliance Coordination
MOSH
501 St. Paul Place
Baltimore, Md. 21202

Dear Craig:

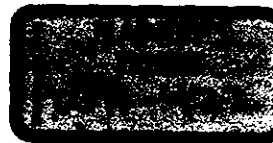
In response to the alleged hazards addressed in the letter of May 4, 1988 from MOSH concerning safety and/or health hazards at the worksite of WJZ-TV on Television Hill accept the following response:

Charge # 1

**Employees suffering from headaches and eye strain, petitioned management for assistance from OSHA/MOSH, requesting that air samples be taken. The Controller, as well as the Human Resources Manager asked that the petition be withdrawn or employees would face the possibility of being dismissed from work.*

Response

Complaints regarding headaches and eye strain are brought to management's attention periodically. Two years ago (Fall of 1986) VDT non-glare screens and ergonomic crt chairs were installed at computer terminals throughout the building. We regularly follow thru on requests relating to the building air system. All air handlers are cleaned once a year and inspected monthly. Specific requests in the past have historically been honored and enclosed are two tests that were made last year. To the best of her knowledge Carolyn Alford, Controller, is not aware of any threat of dismissal for health related complaints. We have an open door policy and encourage all of our employees to channel formal complaints through Human Resources and informal requests to Building Operations & Engineering. In October of 1986 an employee who was experiencing symptoms that her doctor stated were not allergy related made a formal request of Human Resources to verify that the air flow be checked in her work area. Air flow tests and air handler filters were checked in the building around the time of her request.



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Charge #2, #3, #6

- Possible employee exposure to hazards associated with asbestos clean-up and other unsafe conditions such as electrical wiring during remodeling/repair work.*
- Employees have not been informed of the possible asbestos exposure and other unsafe conditions.*
- No information provided to employees concerning the hazards of asbestos.*

Response

There have been absolutely no employees exposed to asbestos associated with the current clean up. WJZ-TV is following the strict guide lines set forth by the Westinghouse Industrial Hygiene group. These guide lines include contracting a Certified Asbestos Hygienist and a Licensed Abatement Contractor operating independent of each other. We feel confident this situation is being handled professionally. Two memos were distributed to all employees prior to any asbestos removal. Copies are enclosed. These memos were sent out to ease tensions and explain the removal process. Questions and a contact person, should the employee desire more information were provided. After these memos were distributed concerns and questions about asbestos were addressed in a meeting with a group of employees on Monday May 3rd. Mr. Wayne Bickerstaff, Manager Industrial Hygiene Westinghouse spoke to employees in the May 3rd meeting about asbestos removal, hazards of asbestos and testing for exposure.

Charge #4, #5

- Possible employee exposure to saw dust in breathing zone during replacement of ceiling tiles.*
- Employees enter confined spaces without taking precautions, wiring is all over the place.*

Response

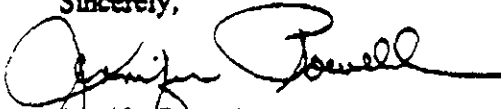
The current construction has a great deal of our ceilings removed and the installation of the new air conditioning duct work has disturbed many of the cable wiring trays. Of the wiring currently exposed, about 95% is low voltage audio & video cable. The only persons required to work in that area are the licensed electricians of the electrical contractor and our maintenance technicians. Both are well aware of the dangers of high voltage. Also monitoring this situation is the Electrical Inspection Department of Baltimore City. To my knowledge they have not issued any warnings or complaints nor caused any work stoppages. WJZ is removing the old wiring and re-routing existing low voltage cabling into proper trays.

In the areas of construction employees have been relocated to temporary offices. Dust created from demolition has been minimized with plastic curtains between construction and employee work areas. There are no passage ways above the ceiling tile in the entire building. Neither is there any duct work used as a passage way. The average space above the ceiling tile is 4 feet. We use ladders and remove ceiling tile to do any work.

Management recognizes that working conditions during major construction projects such as ours are less than ideal. We are doing every thing possible to maintain a healthy work place during this construction period.

I hope this response addresses the concerns brought to the attention of your agency

Sincerely,


Jennifer Powell
Human Resources Manager

08/04/92
IN RE: ABRAMS

DECEMBER 1992