FILE NAME: Talc (TALC)

DATE: 1989 Jan 2

DOC#: TALC033

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: Biopsy Records

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JAN - 4

January 2, 1989

Paul Malek, M.D.
Pathology Department
Mercy Hospital
218 Stone Street
Watertown, New York 13601

Re: Murray Baker, Autopsy #A-89-G-3
JA89-196

Dear Paul:

Thank you for preparing and sending the lung tissue samples for my review and use in teaching. These specimens have already been quite educational to the pathology staff, residents and medical students, and have been a welcome addition to my research study of the talc miners.

My observation of the lung samples revealed markedly fibrotic, focally honeycombed lungs with extensive epithelial metaplasia. There is marked evidence of talcosis and asbestosis. Pleural plaques were described by you in the autopsy report. The mass in the posterior, superior portion of the right lower lobe microscopically is a poorly differentiated adenocarcinoma with focal intracytoplasmic positivity for mucin. Your autopsy report described metastatic disease to lymph nodes, liver and adrenal glands bilaterally. I did not receive any sections to document the metastatic disease and would appreciate a recut slide of these to complete my records on the case if possible.

The lung tissue fiber analysis revealed markedly elevated concentrations of asbestos fibers of the type associated with the talc mine. These are mostly anthophyllite with some tremolite and lesser amounts of chrysotile. In addition high concentrations of talc fibers were identified. No amosite or crocidolite asbestos fibers were identified.

Looking forward to hearing further from you. Best regards.

Sincerely,

Jerrold L. Abraham, M.D.
Associate Professor and
Director of Environmental and
Occupational Pathology

JLA/cd
Enclosure
cc: Victor Ciabotti, Esq.