March 17, 1967

AIR MAIL

Leroy G. Vandeveer, Esq.
Vandeveer, Doelle, Garzia, Tonkin & Kerr
3250 Guardian Bldg.
Detroit, Mich. 48226

Re: Bradshaw vs. Johns-Manville Sales Corporation

Dear Mr. Vandeveer:

I shall expect to see you around 9:00 A.M. on Wednesday, March 22, 1967. Various personnel shall be available to you throughout the day.

I have learned that we do not conduct any pre-employment physicals of asbestos mechanics (insulation workers) such as plaintiff, Donald Bradshaw, nor do we have any periodic medical program with respect to them. The reason for this is that these people only work sporadically in accordance with assignments by the hiring halls of the Union in the various areas where temporary projects are undertaken.

I have learned that Dr. L. U. Smith, our former Medical Director, is in very poor health. For our purposes he is incommunicado. However, I am attempting to run down all of the relevant files and reports of his that are still extant. I am meeting with some of our personnel that have worked with him on the industrial hygiene aspects of asbestos on Monday, March 20, 1967. You will have a chance to talk with one or more of these people during your visit on March 22.

For the time being I am enclosing two reports on asbestosis. I think these will serve as worthwhile initial background reading. The first report is entitled "Asbestosis" and is subtitled "Report of the Section on Nature and Prevalence Committee on Occupational Diseases of the Chest American College of Chest Physicians", (which seems to be dated January, 1961). This would appear to be a disinterested document. The second report is one written by the said Dr. Smith and is entitled "Trends in the Health of the Asbestos Worker" and is dated December 1, 1955. Obviously this report is of a somewhat less impartial nature.

I am also enclosing two other earlier reports by Dr. Smith:

1. Chapter 2 Asbestosis". This report is not clearly dated but from the Bibliography I judge that it was written around 1955; and

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Published by AsbestosClaims.Law
asbestosclaims.law/library/11805/1

2. "Pulmonary Disability in Asbestos Workers", which appears to be dated August, 1955, or thereabouts.

In reading through the files in the LeGrande case I note that in the December 15, 1953, memorandum from Howard G. Tschoepfeld to F. C. O'Connor (a photocopy of which I sent you yesterday) the following is stated (at page 3 thereof):

> "In 1954, a manual was distributed to the buyers of Johns-Manville's products advising them of the best methods for applying its products. Within this manual there was a warning that applicators should avoid breathing any of the dust. This warning was apparently the result of Johns-Manville's medical staff having kept on the look-out for dangerous consequences to applicators. Either Dr. Anthony Lanza or Mr. Van Brown (former house counsel) should be able to tell us what steps have been taken by Johns-Manville with regard to investigating the possibility of occupational diseases among applicators resulting from the use of Johns-Manville's products. Dr. Smith said he would investigate as to exactly what was done along these lines."

I am attempting to trace down this manual but so far have had no success.

Very truly yours,

RRS/bw

Encs.

bcc: W. W. Lanigan
M. W. Burleson
R. A. Stapleton
F. Matthews
F. Ingham
D. Cooke
George Maw - Detroit
J. M. Farrell- Indianapolis
C. E. Foster - Houston

[redacted]

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