



Centers for Disease Control
And Prevention
National Institute for Occupational
Safety and Health
1090 Tusculum Avenue
Cincinnati OH 45226-1998

November 20, 2017
HHE 2018-0022

Ms. Julie Reese
Senior Environmental Safety Specialist
City of Cincinnati
800 Central Avenue, Suite 100
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

Dear Ms. Reese:

This letter is in response to a health hazard evaluation (HHE) request received by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health from the City of Cincinnati. The request concerned a perceived excess of cancers among Cincinnati Police Department District 5 employees. This letter summarizes our recent visit to the Cincinnati Police Department District 5 headquarters on November 15, 2017.

During the visit, we met with employer and employee representatives to discuss the HHE request and conducted a walk-through survey of the District 5 headquarters. Representatives from the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 69, Cincinnati Police Department (including District 5 employees), City of Cincinnati Health Department, and City of Cincinnati Risk Management, Facilities, and Environment and Sustainability departments participated in the meeting.

During the meeting, we gave a brief overview of the HHE program. Meeting participants provided more details about the concerns in the request. We also discussed our typical approach to requests concerning a perceived excess of cancers, including the types of information necessary to complete the evaluation.

We learned that approximately 30 District 5 employees had recently been relocated to a temporary location. Most of the relocated employees had worked primarily in the District 5 headquarters building. This included approximately 5–7 civilian employees represented by the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME). We requested contact information for an AFSCME representative.

In order to investigate these concerns and perform this HHE, we request the following information about each current or past District 5 employee diagnosed with cancer since January 1, 2014:

- Type of cancer

- Month and year of cancer diagnosis (or age at cancer diagnosis)
- Date of birth
- Sex
- Race
- Alive or deceased
- Job title(s)
- Dates of working in District 5
- Dates of working in the Cincinnati Police Department

It is possible that you will not be able to obtain all this information for each affected employee. However, even if this is the case, please send this information to the fullest extent possible to us by December 8, 2017.

We will send a list of questions about the District 5 headquarters building to the facilities manager by e-mail. If we need to return to the facility, we will contact you to make those arrangements. When we complete our evaluation, we will send you a final report. You may receive a short survey from our office. We are interested in your thoughts about our evaluation so far, and we encourage you to complete the survey.

Thank you for your cooperation with this ongoing evaluation. We encourage you to share this letter with your employees. If you have questions, please contact Sophia Chiu at (513) 841-4289 or yjx9@cdc.gov, Gregory Burr at (513) 841-4582 or gab1@cdc.gov, or Leonard Zwack at yjg5@cdc.gov or (513) 841-4389.

Sincerely yours,

Sophia Chiu, MD, MPH
Medical Officer

Gregory Burr, CIH
Industrial Hygiene Team Leader

Leonard Zwack, ScD
Industrial Hygiene Team Leader
Hazard Evaluations and Technical
Assistance Branch
Division of Surveillance, Hazard
Evaluations and Field Studies

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cc:

Sergeant Daniel Hils, President, Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 69

Assistant Chief Terri Theetge, Cincinnati Police Department

Captain Bridget Bardua, District 5 Commander, Cincinnati Police Department

Dr. Marilyn Crumpton, Interim Health Commissioner, City of Cincinnati

Ms. Deborah Allison, Risk Manager, City of Cincinnati

Mr. Larry Falkin, Director, Office of Environment and Sustainability, City of Cincinnati

Ms. Jamie Accurso, Facilities Manager, Facility Management, City of Cincinnati