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TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Re: Dr. Carl Bernofsky

Dr. Bernofsky has been my patient since June of 1995 when he was diagnosed as having a small non-cleaved, non-Burkitt's malignant lymphoma. After the establishment of the diagnosis I am involved with completing staging procedures as well as coordinating his remission induction therapies.

Dr. Bernofsky has made me aware of the intense emotional stress that he has been under for the two and a half years proceeding the diagnosis related to his position at Tulane University. He has told me that the stress which he felt from his Department Chairman, whose intention was to terminate him after 20 years of service to Tulane University and to replace him with a younger scientist, was "intolerable". Consequently, Dr. Bernofsky was quite despondent over the loss of his position and laboratories as well as the severe jeopardy placed on his reputation as a basic scientist.

From the sentinel work in the 1950's of Hans Selye to recent publications involving the molecular mechanism for stress-induced activation on oncogenes of Julio Licinio and Philip Gold in 1995 it has been well known that stress may be a provocative agent in the development of malignancy. In correlating the most difficult two and a half years that Dr. Bernofsky has endured and the development of his malignancy, I believe that there is evidence to ascribe the appearance of this lymphoma to that stress.

Yours very truly,

Milton W. Seiler, M.D.

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