

U.S. Department of Labor

Occupational Safety and Health Administration
 Manhattan Area Office
 201 Varick Street, Room 940
 New York, New York 10014
 Phone: (212)337-2336 Fax: (212)691-2750
 OSHA Website Address: <http://www.osha.gov>



October 29, 2001

Michael Rawlings, Director of Engineering
 NYU Downtown Hospital
 170 William Street
 New York, NY 10038

US DOL OSHA MAO

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Re: NYU Downtown Hospital
 Complaint No. 203797899

Occupational Safety and Health Administration
 Manhattan Area Office
 201 Varick Street, Room 940
 New York, New York 10014
 Phone: (212)337-2336 Fax: (212)691-2750
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Dear Mr. Rawlings:

On 10/29/2001, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) received a notice of safety and/or health hazards at your worksite at 170 William Street New York, NY 10038

We notified you, by telephone, of these alleged hazards on 10/29/01. The specific nature of the alleged hazards is as follows:

October 29, 2001

1. Employees are experiencing symptoms such as sore throats, rashes, cold sores and coughing as a result of dust throughout the hospital.

We have not determined whether the hazards, as alleged, exist at your workplace; and we do not intend to conduct an inspection at this time. However, since allegations of violations and/or hazards have been made, we request that you immediately investigate the alleged conditions and make any necessary corrections or modifications. Please advise me via return fax transmittal, no later than 11/06/01 of the results of your investigation. You must provide supporting documentation of your findings, including any applicable measurements or monitoring results, and photographs/video which you believe would be helpful, as well as a description of any corrective action you have taken or are in the process of taking of the corrected condition.

Dear Mr. Rawlings:

This letter is not a citation or a notification of proposed penalty which, according to the OSH Act, may be issued only after an inspection or investigation of the workplace. It is our goal to ensure that hazards are promptly identified and eliminated. Please take immediate corrective action where needed. We encourage employee participation in investigating and responding to any alleged hazard. If we do not receive a response from you by 11/06/01 indicating that appropriate action has been taken or that no hazard exists and why, an OSHA inspection may be conducted. An inspection may include a review of the following: injury and illness

personal protective equipment, emergency action or response procedures, confined space entry, lockout and related safety and health issues. Please note, however, that OSHA selects for inspection some cases where we have received letters in which employers have indicated satisfactory corrective action. This is to ensure that employers have actually taken the action stated in their letters.

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The State of New York offers OSHA consultation services without charge to assist in resolving all occupational safety and health issues. However, the variety of services available or the scheduling of those services may be limited by the consultation program's requirement to give priority to small businesses in high hazard industries and by its backlog. To discuss or request the services of our State consultation program, call the following toll-free number:

New York State On-Site Consultation Service

New York State Department of Labor

Division of Safety and Health

60 Hudson Street

New York, New York 10014

212-312-2770

personal protective equipment, emergency action or response procedures, confined space entry, lockout and related safety and health issues. Please note, however, that OSHA selects for inspection some cases where we have received letters in which employers have indicated satisfactory corrective action. This is to ensure that you are requested to post a copy of this letter where it will be readily accessible for review by all of your employees and return a copy of the signed Certificate of Posting (Attachment A) to this office. Also, you are requested to provide a copy of this letter and your response to it to a representative of any recognized employee union or safety committee, if these are at your facility. Failure to do this may result in an on-site inspection.

The complainant has been furnished a copy of this letter and will be advised of your response. Section 11(c) of the OSH Act provides protection for employees against discrimination because of their involvement in protected safety and health related activity.

Due to the limited services available or the scheduling of those services may be limited by the consultation program's requirement to give priority to small businesses in high hazard industries and by its backlog. To discuss or request the services of our State consultation program, call the following toll-free number:

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Division of Safety and Health

60 Hudson Street

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212-312-2770

Richard Mendelson

Area Director

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New York, New York 10014
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OSHA Website Address: <http://www.osha.gov>



PLEASE DELIVER THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO:

Michael Rawlings

FAX NO: 212-312-5055

OFFICE: Engineering Division

FROM: Richard Mandelsohn Area Director

OFFICE: Area Director

OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER SHEET: 4

COMMENTS:

FAX NO: 212-312-5055

TO: Engineering Division

FROM: Richard Mandelsohn

**IF THERE IS A PROBLEM WITH THIS FAX
PLEASE CALL THE MANHATTAN AREA OFFICE
AT THE NUMBER ABOVE!**