



**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & MENTAL HYGIENE  
OFFICE OF CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER  
520 FIRST AVENUE, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016-6402**

**CHARLES S. HIRSCH, M.D. CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER**

Telephone (212) 447-2034 FAX (212) 447-6108 TTY (212) 447-2086  
Official Website: <http://www.nyc.gov>

May 18, 2007

Richard H. Bennett, Attorney at Law  
110 East 59<sup>th</sup> Street, 23<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
New York, New York 10022

RE: Felicia Dunn-Jones, deceased

Dear Mr. Bennett:

Dr. de Roux and I continue to have reasonable doubt that Mrs. Dunn-Jones' sarcoidosis was caused by exposure to World Trade Center dust on September 11, 2001. I will not engage in a point by point debate with Dr. Richard Goldberg, her treating physician, but must state that aspects of his written opinions are troublesome to me. Furthermore, the autopsy on Mrs. Dunn-Jones disclosed scars in her myocardium (heart muscle) as a consequence of sarcoidosis; that scarring has a microscopic appearance consistent with an age older than the 4 months between 9/11/01 and her death.

The foregoing reservations notwithstanding, accumulating evidence indicates that in some persons exposure to WTC dust has caused sarcoidosis or an inflammatory reaction indistinguishable from sarcoidosis. If WTC dust can produce such a reaction *de novo*, it is highly likely that the dust would have aggravated preexisting sarcoidosis. Therefore, whether or not she had sarcoidosis prior to 9/11/01, it is likely, with certainty beyond a reasonable doubt, that exposure to WTC dust was harmful to her.

Dr. DeRoux and I have decided to amend Mrs. Dunn-Jones' death certificate to indicate that the underlying cause of her death was sarcoidosis and that exposure to World Trade Center dust on 9/11/01 was contributory to her death. The manner of death will be changed from natural to homicide. Copies of the amended death certificate can be obtained from the Registrar of Vital Records, Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, 125 Worth Street, New York, New York 10013.

TOTAL P.02

We will request that Mrs. Dunn-Jones' name be added to the official list of World Trade Center victims.

Please convey to Mr. Jones our sympathy for the loss of his wife.

Sincerely,

  
Charles S. Hirsch, M.D.  
Chief Medical Examiner

CSH/ar

cc: Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg  
Andrea Berger, Attorney at Law, New York City Law Department