



**ORAU TEAM
Dose Reconstruction
Project for NIOSH**

May 20, 2014

Mr. Frank J. Hearl, P.E.
Chief of Staff
National Institute for Occupational
Safety and Health
Centers for Disease Control
and Prevention (CDC)
395 East Street, SW
Washington, DC 20201

Mr. Grady Calhoun, CHP
Contracting Officer's Technical Representative
NIOSH Division of Compensation
Analysis and Support
Robert A. Taft Building
4676 Columbia Parkway
MS: C-46
Cincinnati, OH 45230

SUBJ: Conflict or Bias Authorization Request for Mr. Thomas LaBone to discuss Internal Dosimetry practices, methods and operations related to the Savannah River Site

Dear Mr. Hearl and Mr. Calhoun:

The Oak Ridge Associated Universities team (ORAUT) requests approval to utilize information from Mr. Thomas LaBone to obtain a perspective as a site expert of the internal dose monitoring program at the Savannah River Site from 1986 through 2005. Mr. LaBone was the Internal Dosimetry Group Leader from 1991 through 2004. Mr. LaBone has unique information about the monitoring methodology and practices and ORAU would like approval to utilize information from an interview with Mr. LaBone in technical documents used to complete dose reconstructions.

Nature of Relationship

Mr. Thomas LaBone is an employee of the MJW Corporation which is one of the ORAU teaming partners. As such, he is a contractor employee working on the NIOSH Dose Reconstruction Project. Mr. LaBone has an appearance of loss of impartiality concern stemming from his prior work at the Savannah River Site and his resulting current status as a potential claimant as well as a potential appearance of bias due to his previous work in internal dosimetry at the site.

Effect on Financial Interest

None - He is healthy and currently working for the ORAU team on other sites. Therefore his participation does not have any bearing on his financial interests. Should Mr. LaBone's the current situation change (health or other), a reassessment will be conducted and a new authorization will be submitted if his continued involvement is necessary.

Nature of Importance

Mr. LaBone was the Internal Dosimetry Group Leader from 1991 through 2004. Mr. LaBone has unique information about the monitoring methodology and practices at the Savannah River Site. Mr. LaBone was mentored by the former internal dosimetry group leader (Roscoe Hall) who passed away in a tragic automobile accident in 1991. Mr. Hall was the internal dosimetry group leader through the 1970 and 1980s. Mr. LaBone is the only known person who can address certain questions about the monitoring practices during both Mr. Hall's tenure and during his tenure as group leader.

Sensitivity of the Matter

Questions have been raised by the Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health concerning the internal dosimetry and monitoring practices that have only been addressed through a review of site procedures. Background and technical justification is needed to explain some of the monitoring practices outlined in the procedures. Mr. LaBone is the only known person who can provide this information during the time period of interest.

Difficulty in Reassignment

As noted above, Mr. LaBone's knowledge is unique with regard to internal monitoring at the Savannah River Site. There is no other known person who can provide this information. This is further demonstrated by the fact that the Savannah River Site has contracted Mr. LaBone to provide the site with historical information on an as needed basis. Please note we are not requesting that Mr. LaBone be assigned any specific work product other than being interviewed in order to obtain knowledge about the internal dosimetry and monitoring programs and procedures at SRS. Once the interviews are conducted, they will be documented by ORAU staff that do not have a conflict or appearance of bias and will only be fact checked by Mr. LaBone.

Adjustments to Employee's Duties to reduce Appearance of Bias

Upon review of the issue appropriate measures will be implemented to ensure that any of Mr. LaBone's perceived biases will not compromise this effort. These measures include:

- Mr. LaBone will not be authoring any documents;
- Mr. LaBone will not have final approval of the documents developed; and
- All information obtained from Mr. LaBone will be reviewed closely by the ORAU team and Dr. Timothy Taulbee, a DCAS employee and Certified Health Physicist who is not conflicted at the Savannah River Site.

Because of the benefits to ORAU and DCAS provided by Mr. LaBone's unique qualifications and the oversight measures included in this activity, his participation in interviews is requested.

Sincerely,



Kate Kimpan
Project Manager
ORAU Team

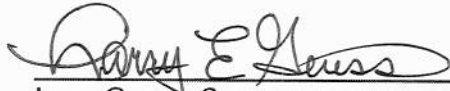
Requested Action:



Digitally signed by Grady J. Calhoun -S
DN: c=US, o=U.S. Government, ou=HHS, ou=CDC,
ou=People, 0.9.2342.19200300.100.1.1=1000434496,
cn=Grady J. Calhoun -S
Date: 2014.05.21 09:31:18 -0400

Grady Calhoun, Concurrence
DCAS Contracting Officer Representative

Date



Larry Guess, Concurrence
Contracting Officer

Date

5/22/14

06/03/2014

Frank Hearl, Approved
Acting Conflict or Bias Officer

Date