



CHERIE BERRY
COMMISSIONER OF LABOR

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH DIVISION
RALEIGH FIELD OFFICE

October 31, 2018

UNC School of Medicine
334 Emergency Room Drive
Chapel Hill, NC 27599

Re: Complaint Number 209621408

Dear Dr. David Rubinow:

Recently the North Carolina Department of Labor Occupational Safety and Health Division received a complaint concerning alleged health and/or safety hazards at your establishment at 334 Emergency Room Drive, Chapel Hill, NC 27599. The specific nature of the complaint is described in detail on the attached page.

We have not determined whether the hazards, as alleged, exist at your workplace; and we are not conducting an inspection, at this time. However, since allegations of violations have been made, you should investigate the alleged conditions and make any necessary corrections or modifications. Within 7 working days of your receipt of this letter, please advise us, in writing, by certified mail, or submitting electronically of your findings and of the action you have taken. Your response should be detailed stating specifically what action you have taken to correct each hazard. You should enclose any supporting documentation, such as monitoring results, equipment purchases, photographs etc.

The complainant has been advised of this preliminary response to the complaint and furnished a copy of this letter. An un-redacted employer response will be forwarded to the complainant. Please focus on providing documentation on the alleged conditions and do not include any comments or information about the person(s) that you believe filed the complaint. You should be aware that North Carolina General Statute '95-241 provides that "no person shall discriminate or take any retaliatory action against an employee because the employee in good faith does or threatens to file a claim or complaint, initiate any inquiry, investigation, inspection, proceeding or other action, or testify or provide information to any person with respect to... the Occupational Safety and Health Act of North Carolina."

This letter is not a citation nor is it a notification of proposed penalty, which according to the Occupational Safety and Health Act, may be issued only after an inspection or investigation of the workplace. If we do not receive a response from you within 7 working days of your receipt of this letter indicating that appropriate action has been taken or that no hazard exists and why, an inspection may be conducted.

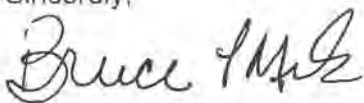
You are requested to post a copy of this letter and your response to it where it will be readily accessible for review by your employees. Please address response to:

N.C. Department of Labor
Occupational Safety & Health Division
Compliance Bureau
1101 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699

If you have any questions about this letter, please contact me at 919-779-8570. Your response may also be submitted electronically to altagracia.guzman@labor.nc.gov.

Your personal support and interest in the safety and health of your employees are appreciated.

Sincerely,

or


Altagracia Guzman
Safety Compliance Officer II

/cw

Enclosure(s)

Complaint of Occupational Safety or Health Hazards

North Carolina Department of Labor

Complaint Number

Optional Number

Occupational Safety and Health Division

209621408

9000

Employer Name

UNC School of Medicine

Site Location (Street, City, State, ZIP)

334 Emergency Room Drive

Chapel Hill

NC 27599

Mailing Address (Street, City, State, ZIP)

334 Emergency Room Drive

Chapel Hill

NC 27599

Management Official

Dr. David Rubinow

Telephone Number

Complaint Assigned To

Q5648

SIC/NAICS

8221

611310

Hazard Description:

1. Several employees have been diagnosed with mold-related illness, with symptoms including headaches; allergies; vision problems; burning/painful eyes, and pregnancy-related concerns, and, since the symptoms ease or abate when employees are away from the workplace, and recur or intensify when they are on the premises, and the premises are contaminated with mold, there is concern that their symptoms could be caused by the mold in the workplace.
2. There are boards hanging down with exposed nails, such that, if they fell, they could strike someone.
3. Sludge is emerging from a rusted grate in the floor.
4. Disused toilets and other items partially obstruct the restroom.
5. Trash cans and other items are routinely left in hallways, such that emergency exit routes contain obstructions.

Hazard Location:

- 1.: 3rd Floor, medical wings: walls; ceiling; table-tops; baseboards; furniture; carpets; air conditioning units; windows.
- 2., 3., and 4.: 3rd Floor: restrooms.