

DEPARTMENT OF LAB. MEDICINE AND PATHOLOGY

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IARC Files – Monograph Vol. 112

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Nov. 4, 16

Dear Mr. Griffis,

Thank you for your letter contacting me on October 31, 2016 with regard to the disclosure of files used in connection with the preparation of the IARC's Monograph Volume 112. I acknowledge your letter and I am responding as a University Professor and member of several professional societies. This follows communications with IARC and my sister, judge of the high court.

At first glance, I would not have problems disclosing my files. However, as these files belong to IARC, I consider your request *inappropriate*. Any of these files have already been published in the monograph or in the Lancet Oncology issue. The original articles can be downloaded from several sources, such as Scopus or PubMed. Some of them may require regular subscriptions or payment in advance for viewing or downloading these files.

After talking with some of my colleagues, who participated to the IARC meeting, I found your letter *intimidating* and *noxious* even though transparency is important. The use of language should be meticulous, respectful and professional. It is impolitic to mention possible consequences without identifying the correct background. I find your approach reprehensive and lacking of common courtesy even by today's standards.

As a graduate of a British educational system, I consider your letter *pernicious*, because it maliciously seeks to instill some anxiety and apprehension in an independent group of experts. This undoubtedly will have consequences for your reputation as respectable law firm.

Please avoid contacting me or any of my colleagues in the future regarding this issue, because these files, if they still exist in our computers or our offices are the same files that have been used for the final report of the monograph. As a Canadian, about to celebrate Remembrance Day, I am reminded of the importance of values and respect in any battlefield. I would suggest that you express your apology to all the IARC 112 meeting participants, who received your previous letter.

Yours sincerely,

Consolato Maria Sergi