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May 27, 1988

John Plunkett, M.D.
Regina Medical Complex
Hastings, Minnesota

Re: Jane Duchene (deceased)

Dear Dr. Plunkett:

You may know I have had an indirect involvement with Jane Duchene, concerning psychiatric aspects of her final illness. I received some additional data regarding the terminal illness from Mary Jane Duchene recently. I understand Ms. Duchene has written to you and forwarded the identical data to you.

I had studied your post mortem report in the course of my evaluation of the psychiatric condition so realize you are familiar with many aspects of this case.

I had not concerned myself greatly as to the physical aspects and the treatment of Jane Duchene except where they clearly bore on the psychiatric phenomena. However, this recent information is troubling to me now and may transcend in a way my prior perspectives.

Briefly, what disturbs me are the two pages of "Physicians' Orders" from the Wedgewood Health Care Center, covering a period from 10/10/86 to 11/19/86, the date of Jane Duchene's death.

I note an entry, 10/22/86, when the patient was taken from the nursing home to her doctor's office. The purpose of this appointment was to enable the treating physician to examine his patient and declare her competent to sign legal documents. The doctor later testified she was mentally competent. I note that the following day, 10/23/86, the doctor orders a change in her insulin dosages, a reduction. (I assume the letters T.O. stand for telephone order and D.C. for discontinue.) I note that on 10/10/86 the patient was receiving Reglan 10 mg q.i.d.p.r.n. for "gastric distress." (The A.M.A. Drug Reference, 6th Ed. reports this drug as useful for "diabetic gastro-paresis.")

EXHIBIT A-1

C-12

EXHIBIT 2