



**Paul B. Rothman, M.D.**

*The Frances Watt Baker, M.D. and Lenox D. Baker, Jr., M.D.  
Dean of the Medical Faculty  
Chief Executive Officer*

**Ronald R. Peterson**

*President  
The Johns Hopkins Hospital and Health System  
Executive Vice President*

February 26, 2013

via FACSIMILE & FIRST CLASS MAIL

Andrew G. Slutkin, Esquire  
Jamison G. White, Esquire  
Steven J. Kelly, Esquire  
SILVERMAN THOMPSON SLUTKIN  
& WHITE, LLC  
26<sup>th</sup> Floor  
201 North Charles Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Russell P. Butler, Executive Director  
MARYLAND CRIME VICTIMS'  
RESOURCE CENTER, INC.

Dear Messrs Slutkin, White, Kelly and Butler:

Thank you for your letter of February 22, 2013. We appreciate the opportunity to respond to your request for information and to pledge our assurances to the patients of Dr. Nikita A. Levy.

First and foremost, words cannot describe how deeply sorry we are for all who this has affected. We are terribly sorry this has happened and for how the patients of Dr. Levy must be feeling. The last few days have been difficult and trying ones for all of us. As we discussed in previous statements and reported to the patients and in the media, these events came to light on February 4, 2013 when a Johns Hopkins employee brought to our attention concerns she had regarding Dr. Levy. The Johns Hopkins employee advised that she had noticed that Dr. Levy had worn a device, which looked like a writing pen, around his neck while examining patients and she believed it was a camera.

On February 5, 2013, Johns Hopkins security was contacted and went to Dr. Levy's office to question him about the device. While interviewing Dr. Levy, similar appearing devices were seen in his office and on his person. The interview was suspended after asking Dr. Levy to voluntarily surrender the devices, which he did. Dr. Levy was advised that he was prohibited from any further patient contact and was encouraged to seek counseling services. Johns Hopkins Security then escorted Dr. Levy off the grounds of Johns Hopkins, and his upcoming appointments were cancelled.

On February 6, 2013 Johns Hopkins contacted the Baltimore City Police Department, and on February 7, 2013 evidence obtained by Johns Hopkins was provided to the Baltimore City Police Department. The Baltimore City Police Department asked Johns Hopkins not to disclose details of the early police investigation so that their investigation would not be compromised and Johns Hopkins complied with their request. Concerned about patient health care, the authorities did permit us to send a letter to patients advising that Dr. Levy was no longer affiliated with Johns Hopkins and to arrange for transfer of their health needs to other physicians. In addition, on February 8, 2013 Johns Hopkins terminated Dr. Levy's employment.

After receiving the information and evidence from Johns Hopkins, the Baltimore City Police Department reportedly executed several search warrants and obtained additional evidence. After Dr. Levy took his life and law enforcement permitted, we issued a public statement and sent a second letter to the patients providing the information that we had available to us.

Johns Hopkins cooperated fully with the Baltimore City Police during their initial investigation and intends to continue to cooperate until the investigation is completed. Due to the sensitive nature of the criminal investigation and not having knowledge of the specific content of the images contained on the devices and other evidence obtained by the Baltimore City Police Department, Johns Hopkins was and is unable to provide definitive information to the patients of Dr. Levy of what was contained on the devices.

Currently, images and videos taken by Dr. Levy are securely in the possession of the Baltimore City Police Department. Except for a few individuals who have been notified, we also do not know whether any of Dr. Levy's patients are identifiable in any video or image contained in that evidence. If the Baltimore City Police Department determines that images or videos are identifiable, we pledge that we will continue to cooperate fully with the Baltimore City Police Department and Baltimore City State's Attorney's office to assist them in identifying those individuals. If we are permitted to do so by the Baltimore City Police Department and Baltimore City State's Attorney's Office, we also pledge that we will assist them in confidentially notifying any patients that are identifiable and in providing those patients with the assistance they may require.

We do not know what Dr. Levy did with the images or videos. It is believed that the Baltimore City Police Department and their federal partners in the investigation are still actively investigating that aspect of the criminal case. As Johns Hopkins learns of the results of the police investigation regarding whether any of the material was distributed, Johns Hopkins pledges to share that information with the patients of Dr. Levy.

Today we stand humbled by the events and tragic circumstances that involve the patients and community that we serve. We want to assure our patients that their privacy, safety and wellbeing are our priority. We acted quickly and we reported information to them with as much detail as we had and our partners in law enforcement would allow.

Protecting patients' dignity and privacy is part of the core values that we instill in our patient safety procedures. We start with the expectation that our health care providers will obey all laws and professional standards. In addition, we have numerous other procedures in place hospital-wide to ensure that our patients' dignity and privacy are protected. In fact, it was one of those procedures that allowed an alert employee to come forward and voice concerns so that we could take decisive action to end Dr. Levy's illegal conduct and report him to authorities.

In the days ahead, we would like to maintain an open line of communication with Dr. Levy's patients and/or their representatives so that information can be exchanged in a meaningful and cooperative atmosphere. If there is a representative group that would like to meet with us to discuss how best to do so, we would welcome your ideas and comments.

Thank you again for your inquiry and opportunity to respond. Please do not hesitate to contact us again if you deem it helpful. In addition, please continue to share with your clients the information that we have provided to them in our most recent letter and which is available on our website.

Sincerely,



Paul B. Rothman, M.D.  
Dean of the Medical Faculty  
CEO, Johns Hopkins Medicine



Ronald R. Peterson  
President  
The Johns Hopkins Hospital and Health  
System  
EVP, Johns Hopkins Medicine