



February 1, 2008

Re: Firefighter _____

DOB: _____

Dear Dr. _____,

Recently the State of Vermont passed the Firefighter's Protection Act of 2007. This law recognizes that firefighters have significant greater incident of certain cancers than the general public. The law creates a presumption that will qualify a firefighter who is diagnosed with certain cancers for workman's compensation for their illness.

The cancers to which this presumption applies are leukemia, lymphoma, multiple myeloma, and cancers originating in the bladder, brain, colon, gastrointestinal tract, kidney, liver, pancreas, skin or testicles.

To qualify for this presumption, the firefighter must have a cancer screening by July 1, 2009. The cancer screening is based on American Cancer Society recommendations based on the firefighter's age and sex.

Firefighter _____ is a patient of yours and is eligible for the presumption provided by the Firefighters protection Act of 2007.

She is a firefighter above the ages of 50 years old. According to the ACS guidelines, she should have a general medical checkup. Included in this checkup should be a thorough examination of the:

- Thyroid
- Oral cavity
- Skin
- Lymph nodes
- Breasts, including mammograms
- One of the following: colonoscopy every ten years, double contrast barium enema every five years, flexible sigmoidoscopy every five years or a yearly stool blood test.

I am including a physical exam checklist to make this examination easier. You may use our official physical exam checklist, or, use one of your own. The firefighter should keep a dated copy of this physical for his/her records. A copy can be maintained in the firefighter's medical file if he/or she chooses. Your report should include your findings, including findings that the firefighter is free of cancer at the time of the screening.

Thank you for your assistance on this important issue. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Richard Lovett, MD
Medical Advisor
Vermont State Firefighters Association