

Susan M. Gapstur, PhD
Vice President
Epidemiology Research Program



September 20, 2013

Dear Dr. Enstrom,

I received your September 16 email. Twice, in both our September 6 and September 13 emails, which are attached to this letter, we requested basic information from you that is necessary in order to make an evaluation of your proposal based on our CPS Data Access Policies and Procedures. Inexplicably, you have refused to provide the Society with the information in both your September 9 and September 16 emails, which are also attached. The Society must therefore deny your request to collaborate with us.

For over 100 years, the American Cancer Society has been committed to scientific integrity in our pursuit of eliminating cancer as a major public health problem. In that time, we have enjoyed collaborative and productive relationships with hundreds of scientists across the country and internationally. In order to serve our mission, we must safeguard the privacy and integrity of our most valuable research asset—our data. We post our CPS Data Access Policies and Procedures on our website to facilitate access to qualified external researchers whose research proposals put forth hypothesis-based research questions that meet the Society's criteria and further its public health mission. The policies and procedures have been carefully considered, and we follow them. Therefore, with all due respect, our "questions and concerns" that you referred to in your September 16 email are both appropriate and necessary for the Society to determine who should be permitted to utilize our CPS II data, and for what purpose.

We remain troubled by your refusal to provide basic information regarding your employment, funding of prior research, funding for your current proposed research, and the identity of other researchers.

Further, we were surprised by both the tone of your most recent email on September 16, and by your demands that appear to *order* the American Cancer Society to complete three specific tasks using CPS II data and submit them to you by September 30. Our collaborative process with outside researchers never includes directives by the outside researcher to conduct tasks for them. To us, your "request" mocks any commonly understood definition of collaboration. As a non-profit, we have finite resources and cannot even support every worthwhile request. We have an obligation to direct resources away from proposals, such as yours, that present significant concerns. Moreover, your directive to us lacked professionalism and with all due respect, you are not the steward of our data or human resources. We are.

We are equally concerned by your statement in your September 16th email that "The completeness, accuracy, and timeliness of your response to me regarding these three tasks will be duly noted and your response will be shared with those persons who are aware of my request to you." We are not accustomed to being threatened and your extortive tone does the scientific community discredit. It is also deeply ironic given that you have consistently refused to identify other researchers with whom you are working.

Finally, we were confused by your reference to the House Science Committee subpoena to the

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American Cancer Society
250 Williams Street, Atlanta, GA 30303-1002

Environmental Protection Agency. You stated in your September 16 email: "You need to understand the importance of my request in light of the current US House Science Committee subpoena." The Society is aware of the Congressional Committee's recent interactions with the EPA, but it would be highly unusual and totally improper for the Society to include congressional subpoena of a federal agency as a factor when considering a collaboration proposal from an outside researcher.

In summary, your refusal to provide the following information makes it impossible for us to accept your proposal:

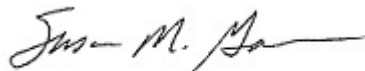
1. Twice you have refused to clarify the misleading information you provided regarding your employment by UCLA, including your use of a UCLA signature block in your email while you are undisputedly not currently an employee of UCLA.
2. After two requests on September 6 and September 13, you continue to refuse to identify which of your past research has been funded, directly or indirectly, by the tobacco industry or other industries or companies with significant economic interests in results of the research.

You have further failed to explain the facts that support your statement in your September 9th email that your 2003 BMJ paper was funded 90% by ACS, while the funding acknowledgement in your BMJ paper only describes support from TRDRP and CIAR.

3. You have refused to provide information regarding the direct and indirect sources of funding for your proposed study, despite our requests on September 6 and September 13. Instead, you have directed us to conduct research tasks using CPS II data at our expense.
4. The Society twice requested that you identify the researchers with whom you are working in our September 6 and September 13 emails. Twice you have refused, in your September 9 and September 16 emails. Yet, according to your September 16 email, you appear to intend to work with multiple unknown individuals on research using our CPS II data.

We hoped to be able to consider a full proposal for a collaborative relationship with you with the goal of furthering the prevention of cancer. We are disappointed that this was not possible.

Sincerely,



Susan M. Gapstur

From: James E. Enstrom [<mailto:jenstrom@ucla.edu>]
Sent: Monday, September 16, 2013 4:48 PM
To: Susan Gapstur
Subject: Full Proposal for PM2.5 & Mortality Analysis Using CPS II

September 16, 2013

Dear Dr. Gapstur,

I stand by the accuracy and appropriateness of my September 9, 2013 responses to your September 6, 2013 questions. I will provide further information related to your September 13, 2013 questions only if you speak with me directly. You can find substantial information in the numerous weblinks that I have provided below. Your questions and concerns are not relevant to the epidemiologic findings that I am asking you to produce entirely on your own. Your ability to produce these findings is not dependent in any way upon my answers to your questions. You need to understand the importance of my request in light of the current US House Science Committee subpoena (<http://science.house.gov/press-release/smith-epa-stands-default-subpoena>). The subpoena is focused in large part on the ACS CPS II data and results that have been used by US EPA to implement multibillion dollar national PM2.5 regulations that many scientists consider to be scientifically unjustified.

Because your September 1, 2013 AJCCRM paper (<http://www.atsjournals.org/doi/abs/10.1164/rccm.201303-0609OC>) ignores the criticism of the 2011 Jerrett Report (<http://www.scientificintegrityinstitute.org/JerrettCriticism102811.pdf>), omits key evidence summarized in my 2012 ASA JSM paper (<http://www.scientificintegrityinstitute.org/ASAS092812.pdf>), and comes to conclusions that I do not consider to be justified, I have altered my August 15, 2013 proposal in order to initially focus my full proposal on two specific aspects of the relationship between PM2.5 and total mortality in the CPS II cohort. These aspects involve CPS II data and analysis programs that ACS Epidemiology already possesses and has used.

As the initial part of my full proposal, I request that you perform the following three well-defined tasks this week, if at all possible, or certainly by September 30, 2013:

1) Produce a table showing the mortality risk (MR) and 95% CI for PM2.5 each city in Figure 5 and Figure 21 of the 2000 Krewski HEI Reanalysis Report (<http://pubs.healtheffects.org/view.php?id=6>), as per my August 3, 2002 request to Dr. Aaron Cohen of HEI (<http://www.scientificintegrityinstitute.org/Cohen080902.pdf>) and my September 13, 2010 request to Daniel Greenbaum of HEI (<http://www.scientificintegrityinstitute.org/Greenbaum092210.pdf>). My requests to HEI and others have gone unanswered for over 11 years, in spite of the fact that the results I am seeking have been available for over 13 years. If you cannot locate the original Figure 5 and Figure 21 calculations, please redo them immediately using the same methodology specified in the 2000 Krewski HEI Reanalysis Report.

2) Using the same CA CPS II data and programs that were used to calculate the relative risk (RR) results for 1982-2000 presented in your September 1, 2013 AJCCRM paper, please calculate a RR and 95% CI for total (all cause) mortality for two follow-up periods, 1982-1989 and 1990-2000, for the PM2.5 LUR, NO2 LUR, and Ozone IDW models in Table 4, for the three two-pollutant models in Table 5, and for the California, National Level, and Los Angeles Only models in Table 6.

3) Based on the evidence from Tasks 1) and 2), state whether you still agree that the following two concluding statements in your September 1, 2013 AJCCRM paper accurately describe the totality of the CPS II-based findings on the relationship between PM2.5 and total mortality in California: "Using the first individualized exposure assignments in this important cohort, we found positive associations of fine particulate matter, O3, and NO2 with mortality." and "In sum, the associations observed here reduce key uncertainties regarding the relationship between air pollution and mortality and confirm that air pollution is a significant risk factor for mortality."

The completeness, accuracy, and timeliness of your response to me regarding these three tasks will be duly noted and your response will be shared with those persons who are aware of my request to you. The remainder of my full proposal will be submitted to you once you have completed the three tasks above.