

May 5, 1997

Robert C. Corn, M.D., F.A.C.S. Timothy L. Gordon, M.D. Orthopaedic Surgeons

> Joseph G. Ritzler Attorney at Law 330 Haiina Building 1322 Euclid Avenue Cleveland, OH 44115-1901

> > RE: Alvin H. Coker Case No. CV 1996072871 (Summit Co) File No. 14243-A

Dear Mr. Ritzler:

As you are aware I initially evaluated Alvin Coker in my office for the purpose of an Independent Medical Evaluation on January 10, 1997. This was in reference to alleged residuals of injury sustained in a motor vehicular accident which occurred on January 27,1995.

The issues at that time were a contusion of the left knee. The injury as described was essentially that of a non-twisting **injury**, striking his knee on the steering column in the suprapatellar area. There was no documentation of any previous injury to his left knee. He did have a previous right knee arthroscopic surgery.

It was my opinion at the time of the initial evaluation that the tom meniscus of the lefi knee was, by his history, related to the accident. The injury; however, was described as a contusing injury. This is the typical type of injury that produces meniscal pathology. It was my suspicion that there had been another injury that may have been more competent to produce a meniscal tear. Alvin H. Coker, Page 2 Case No. CV 1996 07 2871 Fils No. **24243-A** 

Recently you have forwarded me additional medical records, including those records from the Consolidated Freightway, his employer. Of significance was that he was in the emergency room at the Akron City Hospital four days prior to this motor vehicular accident, January 23, 1995. He presented to the emergency room with a chief complaint of **left knee pain.** He indicated at that time that he sustained a slip and fall on a wet surface, resulting in left knee pain. The examination at that time revealed tenderness along the medial aspect of the knee in the region of the medial collateral ligament. He was able to bear weight at that time. His diagnosis was that of **an** acute strain of the left knee.

Review of these records indicate a much more competent event to create a meniscal tear than the injury sustained in the motor vehicular accident in question. The exact etiology of the meniscal tear remains obscure. Certainly the fact that there was a slip and fall, which usually involves a twisting maneuver, is much more likely to produce meniscal pathology than a simple contusion type of injury.

He has objectively recovered. The exact etiology of the meniscal tear remains obscure. It is quite apparent that Mr. Coker was not entirely straight forward with me in reference to his prior left knee condition.

Sincerely.

Robert C. Com, M. D F.A.C.S.

RCC/bn

cc: File