Comment ID CDC-2021-0118-0002

Tracking Number kvw-ojuc-wdcf

Received Date Nov 12, 2021

Submitter Name Ann Ajana

I am presently 63 years old. I began working in Manhattan in 1976. I have had only two jobs as a legal secretary. One for 9 1/2 years at a boutique firm, the other for 35 years for a large Wall Street firm. As to personal background, my genetic family history is NO CANCER, on either side of my family. Heart disease is our killer, not ever cancer.

I was present in the office on September 11, 2001 and, along with hundreds of others, ran for my life that day. I returned to work the following Monday and worked five days a week until October 2019. I developed chronic sinus infections, the first one being November 2001. I have been chronic since that time.

At 52 I was diagnosed with colon cancer of the sigmoid colon. I got a hernia from the surgery and had to be operated on less than a year after my colon surgery. I was in the survivorship program at Memorial Sloan Kettering after being cancer free for two years.

I joined the WTC Health Program in 2017 and was immediately certified for colon cancer and chronic sinusitis.

In September 2019 after abnormal test results, I was diagnosed with uterine cancer. As it spread to lymph nodes, it was categorized as "endometrial".

My endometrial cancer required six weeks of radiation and six chemotherapy sessions. I was sick for a year. I lost my hair. I have neuropathy. I was put on long term disability and terminated from my job. I suffer PTSD not only from the events and aftermath of September 11th, but from the fact that: My body seems to be vulnerable to cancer. WHY? There is no genetic history of cancer in my background. Sloan Kettering has determined my colon cancer and uterine cancer are NOT related. This finding is mentally worse for me as it illustrates I am vulnerable to cancer. Where did this originate?

It is my firm belief that the toxins I breathed for those months and YEARS after the attack have damaged me.

The idea that mostly all cancers and other illnesses are acknowledged and certifiable yet uterine is not is an outrage.

These findings cannot be the final decision. This issue must be reviewed and revisited toward the goal of acknowledging all the women that suffer to this day.