

Appendix H: Letter of Introduction

Dear Officer:

Thank you for agreeing to participate in the Center for Health Research's nationally based study of the health of police officers. As a former police officer, I understand many of the experiences that you have at work, and thus appreciate the time you have committed to this study. Both the Buffalo Police PBA and administration have approved the study, and I anticipate the findings will benefit police officers now and in the future.

Enclosed you will find preliminary information/forms to prepare you for the clinic visit. Below, the relevance and importance of each set of enclosures is explained. Please read the comments below carefully as you prepare for your visit.

Enclosures:

In order to adhere to high standards of safety we have enclosed a form that must be filled out and sent back to us immediately. This form is titled "**Eligibility Screening Form.**" The form provides us with information regarding your current health status and helps us determine your eligibility for participation in various components of the study. Again, it is important that you **immediately complete and send this form back.** We have provided a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

A study consent form is enclosed. This form provides you with information on health procedures you will undergo as part of the study. **Please read the form, but do not sign it.** This form will be reviewed with you and we will sign it together on the day of your visit.

The final set of enclosures includes specific instructions to prepare you for your visit to the clinic. Please read these instructions **at least the day before** your visit. There are several things you must do/abstain from doing the evening before your visit.

Do not hesitate to contact the Police Health Study (Rosa or Mary) at 829-5603 if you have questions regarding the enclosures or the Police Health Study. Thanks again for your help. I am certain that your experience at the UB clinic will be a positive and friendly one.

Sincerely,

John M. Violanti, Ph.D.

NYSP Retired