

CENTER FOR HUMAN TOXICOLOGY,
UNIVERSITY OF UTAH,
Salt Lake City, Utah, January 24, 1979.

Dr. WILLIAM Q. STURNER,
Medical Examiner's Office, Department of Health,
Providence, R.I.

DEAR BILL: This letter will formally introduce to you Dr. Yale Caplan who is serving as a consultant forensic toxicologist to the Center For Human Toxicology.

The purpose of our joint activity is to assist the government, particularly the FDA Drug Abuse Advisory Committee and Senator Gaylord Nelson's Congressional Committee on various aspects of propoxyphene toxicity.

The CHT's assistance has been requested because of our past record in this field but unfortunately, time constraints have made it impossible for me to fulfill their requests alone. Hence, the CHT has engaged Dr. Caplan, Dr. Garriott and Mr. Shaw for this purpose. I know of your personal concerns about the involvement of propoxyphene in medico-legal cases and, therefore, it seemed vital to me that we obtain information from your office and benefit from your opinions. I ask that you cooperate with Dr. Caplan and thereby assist the appropriate government offices to have before them as much authenticated data as possible concerning this drug.

Thanks for your assistance. Best personal regards.

Yours sincerely,

BRYAN S. FINKLE, Ph. D.,
Director.

DARVON RELATED DEATHS

1974:

131 Propoxyphene (Suicide)

1975:

1926 Propoxyphene (Suicide)

2234 Darvon, Propoxyphene (Suicide)

2367 Propoxyphene (Unclassified)

2981 Propoxyphene (Undetermined)

1976:

0058 Propoxyphene (Unclassified)

0200 Propoxyphene (Suicide)

0257 Propoxyphene (Unclassified)

0330 Propoxyphene (Suicide)

0589 Darvon (Suicide)

1033 Propoxyphene (Natural)

1172 Propoxyphene (Unclassified)

1266 Propoxyphene (Suicide)

1870 Propoxyphene (Suicide)

2046 Propoxyphene (Suicide)

2118 Propoxyphene (Unclassified)

2303 Propoxyphene (Unclassified)

2405 Propoxyphene, Darvon (Suicide)

2496 Propoxyphene (Unclassified)

3185 Propoxyphene (Unclassified)

1977:

0191 Nor-propoxyphene (Suicide)

0307 Nor-propoxyphene (Unclassified)

0440 Propoxyphene (Suicide)

0564 Nor-propoxyphene (Accident)

0738 Propoxyphene (Suicide)

1403 Nor-propoxyphene (Accident)

1406 Propoxyphene (Suicide)

1534 Nor-propoxyphene (Homicide)

1641 Nor-propoxyphene (Natural)

1701 Propoxyphene (Accident)

1783 Propoxyphene (Accident)

1892 Propoxyphene (Unclassified)

2168 Propoxyphene (Suicide)

2182 Propoxyphene (Suicide)

2412 Propoxyphene (Suicide)

2595 Propoxyphene (Suicide)

3182 Propoxyphene (Suicide)