



City of Seattle King County
Charles Royer, Mayor Randy Revelle, Executive

Seattle-King County Department of Public Health

M E M O R A N D U M

RECEIVED
AUG 20 1985

TO: Julia Bassett
FROM: Patricia Canova
RE: AIDS/EMPLOYMENT

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR
SEATTLE-KING COUNTY DEPARTMENT
OF PUBLIC HEALTH

DATE: 8/20/85

Will Jones, who answers the AIDS Information Line, informed me that last week we received calls from five individuals who indicated that they had lost their job as a result of AIDS. One individual has been diagnosed as having AIDS, and three indicated that they were antibody positive for AIDS. Four of those individuals indicated that they had shared their antibody status with either co-workers or friends at the workplace. The fifth individual, who works for an insurance company, did not share his antibody status with co-workers and theorizes that the insurance company had access to his medical records. In all five cases, the individuals did not indicate to Will what the employer told them about their termination. It was obvious, however, that the interpretation of these employees was that they were fired because of AIDS.

One of the components of our AIDS testing project is counseling people about who and when to tell about their AIDS antibody test. Carol Dunphy, nurse practitioner for the AIDS Project, spends time with each individual discussing with them under what circumstances they should share their test results with other friends, lovers, or co-workers.

I have asked Carol Dunphy, the nurse practitioner who heads the AIDS Testing Project, to call Bud Nicola and brief him on exactly what advice we give to people who test positive. If you need any additional information, please don't hesitate to call. My experience with Katherine Bourne of the Seattle Gay News has been very good. She has printed accurate information and has always been very careful to call me back and read any quotes.

PC:mho

cc: Bud Nicola ✓

JB.AE(PC4)
8/20/85