

E N C L O S U R E "F"

August 25, 1965

Samuel Smith, M.D.
Administrative Secretary
National Medical Association
520 W Street, N.W.
Howard University
Washington 1, D. C.

Dear Dr. Smith:

This follows my last letter to you, concerning my application for membership in the N. M. A., application first filed in December 1962. As you certainly well recall, I had enclosed a full file documenting what had been going on, in the processing of my application by the Manhattan Medical Society, since that time. You replied promising a full early inquiry. You gave the same reply to a letter sent you in February 1965 by my sponsor, Dr. William Davis' letter in which Dr. Davis protested about the unbelievable delay in the processing of my application.

This was several months ago. To this date, I have not heard from either you or the Manhattan Medical Society.

My patience is now exhausted. Being without membership in a national association is now detrimental in terms no longer soley psychological. Because of it, it may be difficult for me to be transferred from Member to Fellow in the American Psychiatric Association. Worse than that, the way your Association has handled my application, is now affecting my professional reputation, as colleagues wonder as to why it should take almost three years to process my application.

Unless I hear from you by September 20, 1965, I shall transfer the entire file to the American Civil Liberties Union, the New York City Commission on Human Rights and other appropriate agencies — for the purpose of investigating this matter. I hope and pray this will not be necessary, as I still like to believe that at least the N. M. A. is truly non-discriminatory and accepts all qualified, ethical physicians regardless of race, religion

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or national origin. Also, I resent being backed into a corner from where I will be likely to contribute to much unfavorable publicity against an association I once thought very highly of -- an association I still hope to be able to think well of again.

Yours truly,

Vincent S. Conigliaro, M. D.