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**DECISION OF THE  
SUPREME COURT OF MISSOURI  
(OCTOBER 4, 2022)**

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**SUPREME COURT OF MISSOURI**

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**HARRIS-PATTERSON, ACQUANITTA L.,**

*Petitioner,*

v.

**ARMCO STEEL A/KIA AK STEEL CORPORATION,  
LAWRENCE A. JONES & SONS MORTUARY,  
MENDEZ, NORMA JEAN**

*Respondent.*

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**No. 0716-CV11586  
Jackson County Cir. Ct. No.**

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10/04/2022

Disposed-Pet for Writ Denied

PETITION FOR WRIT OF CERTIORARI  
DENIED. MANDATE SENT TO PETITIONER  
AND RESPONDENTS VIA REGULAR MAIL  
ON THIS DATE.

08/15/2022

Writ Filed in MO Supreme Court

**DECISION OF THE WESTERN DISTRICT  
COURT OF APPEALS  
(AUGUST 16, 2022)**

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WESTERN DISTRICT COURT OF APPEALS

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HARRIS-PATTERSON, ACQUANITTA L.,

*Petitioner,*

v.

ARMCO STEEL, LAWRENCE A. JONES & SONS  
MORTUARY, MENDEZ, NORMA JEAN

*Respondent.*

---

No. 0716-CV11586

Jackson County Cir. Ct. No.

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08/16/2022

Disposed- Pet for Writ Denied

08/15/2022

Clerk Remark

Writ Panel: Judge Martin, PJ and Judge Sutton,  
J

Filing Fee Paid

Filed By: ACQUANITTA HARRIS-PATTERSON

Correspondence Received

Filed By: ACQUANITTA HARRIS-PATTERSON

App.3a

Writ Filed in MO Ct of Appeals  
Filed By: ACQUANITTA HARRIS-PATTERSON

Writ Summary Filed  
Filed By: ACQUANITTA HARRIS-PATTERSON

**DECISION OF  
JACKSON COUNTY KANSAS CITY  
(JULY 31, 2007)**

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**JACKSON COUNTY KANSAS CITY  
CIRCUIT COURT**

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**HARRIS-PATTERSON, ACQUANITTA L.,**

*Petitioner,*

v.

**ARMCO STEEL, LAWRENCE A. JONES & SONS  
MORTUARY, MENDEZ, NORMA JEAN**

*Respondent.*

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**Before: John D. WILLIAMSON JR., Judge**

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**07/31/2007**

**Dismiss by Ct w/o Prejudice**

**Hearing/Trial Cancelled**

**Scheduled For: 09/17/2007; 9:30 AM; J D  
WILLIAMSON JR; Jackson - Kansas City**

**Motion Granted/Sustained**

**Motion to Dismiss is granted. The case is  
dismissed.**

**Associated Entries: 06/19/2007 - Motion to Dismiss**

**06/19/2007**

App.5a

Suggestions in Support  
of Mot to Dismiss Petition  
Filed By: AK STEEL COMPANY

Motion to Dismiss  
Filed By: AK STEEL COMPANY

Associated Entries: 07/31/2007 - Motion Granted/  
Sustained

06/04/2007

Corporation Served

Document ID - 07-SMCC-4053; Served To - AK  
STEEL COMPANY; Server-; Served Date - 23-  
MAY 07; Served Time - 00:00:00; Service Type -  
Sheriff Department; Reason Description - Served;  
Service Text - served T Richter, Designee

05/03/2007

Summons Issued-Circuit

Document ID: 07-SMCC-4053, for AK STEEL  
COMPANY;

Case Mgmt Conf Scheduled  
Associated Entries: 07/31/2007 - Hearing/Trial  
Cancelled

Scheduled For: 09/17/2007; 9:30 AM; J D  
WILLIAMSON JR; Jackson - Kansas City

04/25/2007

Pet Filed in Circuit Ct

**DECISION OF  
JACKSON COUNTY KANSAS CITY  
AND DOCKET  
(SEPTEMBER 10, 2007)**

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**JACKSON COUNTY KANSAS CITY  
CIRCUIT COURT**

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**HARRIS-PATTERSON, ACQUANITTA L.,**

*Petitioner,*

v.

**LAWRENCE A. JONES & SONS MORTUARY,  
MENDEZ, NORMA JEAN**

*Respondent.*

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**Before: John M. TORRENCE, Judge**

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**09/10/2007**

**Order of Dismissal**

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that all claims  
as stated in Plaintiffs Petition against Defendants  
are hereby dismissed. Costs to be assess against  
Plaintiff.**

**Motion no Longer an Issue**

**Defendant Norma Mendez's Motion to Dismiss is  
granted. Plaintiff's suit is dismissed against Defen-  
dant Norma Mendez and Defendant Lawrence A.  
Jones and Mortuary.**

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Associated Entries: 07/09/2007 - Motion to Dismiss  
Associated Entries: 08/22/2007 - Motion to Dismiss

08/22/2007

Motion to Dismiss  
Filed By: NORMA MENDEZ - EMPLOYEE-  
RELATIVE  
Associated Entries: 09/10/2007 - Motion no Longer  
an Issue

07/27/2007

Order of Dismissal  
Dismiss by Ct w/o Prejudice  
Defendant's Motion to Dismiss is granted. All  
claims asserted in the Petition are dismissed.  
Filed By: JOHN M. TORRENCE

07/11/2007

Motion to Transfer  
Case  
Filed By: ACQUANITTA L HARRIS-PATTERSON

07/09/2007

Motion to Dismiss  
LP  
Filed By: LAWRENCE A JONES AND SONS  
MORTUARY  
Associated Entries: 09/10/2007 - Motion no Longer  
an Issue  
Document ID: 07-SMCC-4053, for AK STEEL  
COMPANY;

07/06/2007

Notice  
of Judgment by Default for not Complying With  
45 Days Relief Demand of Complaint  
Filed By: ACQUANITTA L HARRIS-PATTERSON

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05/26/2007

Answer Filed Answer to Petition Filed By:  
NORMA MENDEZ - EMPLOYEE-RELATIVE  
05/18/2007 Summons Personally Served

05/18/2007

Summons Personally Served  
Document ID - 07-SMCC-4061; Served To -  
MENDEZ - EMPLOYEE-RELATIVE, NORMA;  
Server - GEORGE L. DISCIACCA; Served Date  
- 10-MAY-07; Served Time - 09:50:00; Service  
Type - Civil Process Server; Reason Description -  
Served

05/17/2007

Agent Served  
Document ID - 07-SMCC-4060; Served To -  
LAWRENCE A JONES AND SONS MORTUARY;  
Server - GEORGE L. DISCIACCA; Served Date  
- 09-MAY-07; Served Time - 12:05:00; Service  
Type - Civil Process Server; Reason Description -  
Served

05/03/2007

Summons Issued-Circuit Document  
ID: 07-SMCC-4060, for LAWRENCE A JONES  
AND SONS MORTUARY; Document ID: 07-  
SMCC-4061, for MENDEZ - EMPLOYEE-  
RELATIVE, NORMA;  
Case Mgmt Conf Scheduled  
Scheduled For: 09/06/2007; 9:30 AM; JOHN M.  
TORRENCE; Jackson - Kansas City

04/25/2007

Pet Filed in Circuit Ct

**AFFIDAVIT OF STEPHANIE JEAN HOWARD**

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STATE OF WISCONSIN  
IN THE MILWAUKEE COUNTY OF WAUWATOSA

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IN RE:  
**STEPHANIE JEAN HOWARD**  
4735 North Parkside Drive  
Wauwatosa, WI 53225

**ACQUANITTA LOUISE HOWARD AKA HARRIS-  
PATTERSON, CONYERS,**

*Petitioner,*

v.

**ARMCO STEEL, AKA AK STEEL COMPANY  
LAWRENCE A. JONES/SONS MORTUARY ET AL,  
NORMA JEAN MENDEZ, EMPLOYEE/RELATIVE**

*Respondents.*

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Case No.: SC99742

Case(s) No.: 0716-CV-11586 0716-C V11623

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TO THE HONORABLE SUPREME COURT  
JUSTICE(S) OF SAID COURT(S):

NOW COMES the undersigned, hereinafter called  
Affidavit of Sworn Statement By the following:  
Stephanie Jean Howard, Daughter to the decedent,  
gives her sworn statement and respectfully show the  
court and to give her statement and testimony in this

Affidavit Sworn Statement under oath affirmation, in good faith and under penalty and perjury, of sincere belief and personal knowledge that the following matters, facts and the things set forth are true and correct, to be the best of my (her) knowledge:

### **STATEMENT OF FACTS**

The within named persons ( Respondents) in this Affiant, (1)Armco Steel, aka AK Steel Company, located Cleveland, OH (2) Lawrence A. Jones & Sons aka, Lawrence A. Jones Jr. Son of Lawrence A. Jones Sr., Family Mortuary Business, and (3) Norma Jean Mendez, employee/Relative of the LA Jones Funeral Mortuary, who is located and a resident of the Jackson County, State of Missouri, personally came and ask my mother Acquanitta L Harris-Patterson (aka Acquanitta L. Howard) to have the me and my sister (Michelle L Harris) at which time we were minor children ages (Stephanie J. Howard was, 13 years of age and Michelle Harris 14 Years of age) to go with Norma J. Mendez, employee/relative to the funeral Home escorted by Employee/Relative Norma Mean Mendez to review and pick out a Coffin for my (our) father Louis L.S. Howard, Descendent.

Upon the arrival of to the Lawrence A. Jones Funeral mortuary, Norma Jean Mendez ask (us) QUOTE: Sign, your Mother's name right here on some documents papers, and ask us to sign Acquanitta L Howard, on several papers.

I give my testimony under the oath of this Sworn Affidavit of Statement, that I (we) sister and I were signing for the "Coffin we picked out for our father decedent (Louis LS Howard) at the time when Norma Jean Mendez instructed us to do so, by Signing our

## App.11a

Mother's Name "Acquanitta L. Howard" for the coffin to put the remains of our father to rest.

Even though me and my sister were minor children, we thought we were helping our mother because she was so upset and crying for the lost of our father and her husband of 26 years Louis LS Howard, decedent. As a minor child, I remembered so well how Norma Jean Mendez, said to me and my sister in such a rush and harsh tone, Quote: Sign Your Mother's name right here (on some papers that we did not have to read just sign)and again Sign your mother's name right here, and then told us to come on it was time for us to be taken back home. When we got home we told our mother that we signed the papers for his coffin to match his navy blue pinstripe suit designed by Bill Blass. The coffin was dark blue and we let our mother know what was done.

Then upon the time we came in the house Norma Jean Mendez came behind us (me and My sister) and told my mother the Quote: FUNERAL WAS FREE, AND KEPT REPEATING THAT THE FUNERAL WAS FREE, AS SHE WAS WALKING OUT THE DOOR. She never looked my mother in the face just kept walking out the door shouting the Funeral Was Free . . . and then drove off. After what happen that said day, we did not hear Norma Jean Mendez, not the Lawrence a Jones Funeral Home directors or any staff, that worked there. The next time we had seen the Funeral home people was at the Funeral Service at the church on 34th Woodland, Grace Holy Temple Church, Pastor Slayton, who presided over the services. As of now my mother and me and my sister do not know where our father and my mother husband remains are located. We did not

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pick the gravesite. We only know the cemetery at this time.

Thereby, this testament I give under the oath of this Sworn Affidavit of Statement to the best of my knowledge in good faith.

I certify under PENALTY OF PERJURY under the laws of the State of Missouri that the foregoing paragraph(s) are and true and correct to my knowledge.

Dated this 10th day of October, 2022

/s/ Stephanie Jean Howard

Signature of Sworn Affidavit

Print Name:

Stephanie Jean Hoard

Address:

1831 Russell, Apt #A

St. Louis, MO. 63104

314.489.7040 Office

**AFFIDAVIT OF KENNETH H. WASHINGTON  
FOR ACQUANITTA L. HARRIS-PATTERSON**

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**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF JACKSON  
COUNTY MISSOURI  
AT KANSAS CITY**

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**STATE OF MISSOURI**

v.

**JACKSON COUNTY**

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**Case No. 0716-CV11623**

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1. I Kenneth H. Washington, being first duly sworn, avers as follow:
2. I am an adult resident of the county of Jackson, city of Kansas City Missouri.
3. I am a family friend of the petitioner, Acquanitta L. Harris-Patterson case matter.
4. I give testimony to the case matter as a past special-companion friend.
5. That upon said death of Louis L. Howard, 12/2/1984 I was employed by the KCPD
6. The decedent was aware of the friendship between his spouse and myself.
7. That in 1984, I was acquainted with the petitioner for a period of about two (2) years before and after the death of Louis L. Howard; I was able to give financial assistant to her and children with the assist-

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ant from my mother Ms. Rose Ann Kemp-Washington during the death of the petitioner's spouse (Louis S. Howard).

Sworn to and subscribed to before me this 26 of July 2007.

/s/ Kenneth H. Washington

/s/ C. S. HUNTON  
Notary Public  
My Commission Expires  
April 27, 2011  
Jackson County  
Commission #07500174

**NOTICE OF EMPLOYEE SEPARATION  
WITHOUT SIGNATURE OF EMPLOYEE**

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**JACKSON COUNTY KANSAS CITY  
CIRCUIT COURT**

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**NOTICE OF EMPLOYEE- SEPARATION  
ARMCO - MIDWESTERN STEEL DIVISION -KANSAS CITY  
WORKS**

Name Louis L.S. Howard  
Date 6-25-84  
Badge No 10339  
Last Department Wire Drawing (Extra Board)  
Job Title Laborer  
Last Day Worked 9-10-82  
Date Separation Effective 6-25-84

**REASON FOR SEPARATION:**

**OTHER**  
7 Day Void.

**FORWARDING ADDRESS**

5438 Woodland Kansas City, Mo. 64110

John Epperson  
Employment Department  
/s/ J.D. Cox  
Payroll Department

**LETTER FROM ATTORNEY JACK D. ROWE  
STATING MR. HOWARD  
WAS NOT AN EMPLOYEE  
(JULY 19, 1991)**

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**LAW OFFICES LATHROP & NORQUIST**

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2600 Mutual Benefit Life Building  
2345 Grand Avenue  
Kansas City, MO 64108-2684  
FAX (816) 421-0500  
(816) 842-0820

Mr. Edward Alan Williams  
922 Oak Street  
Kansas City,\* Missouri 64106

Re: Acquanita Howard

Dear Mr. Williams:

Your letter of July 9, 1991 to "Armco Steel, Employee Benefits" (copy enclosed) has been referred to me for response.

Armco Inc. records reflect that over the last several years Ms. Howard has made several inquiries, both individually and through her attorneys, concerning Louis Howard. She, and her attorneys, have been repeatedly and consistently advised that Mr. Howard was terminated from his employment with Armco Inc. effective June 25, 1984, and was not an employee of Armco Inc. at any time thereafter. Specifically, they have been told that Mr. Howard was not employed by Armco Inc. at the time of his death in December, 1984, and accordingly, benefits were not available. I also enclose correspondence dated January 4, 1991 to

Ms. Howard, correspondence dated June 2, 1986 to her attorney, Daniel J. Matula, and correspondence dated July 21, 1986 to her attorney, G. Michael Fatall, all to this effect.

Ms. Howard has also been previously provided copies of the Pension Agreement between Armco Inc. and the United Steelworkers of America, effective July 30, 1980, with Summary Plan Description, PIE (Program of Insurance Benefits) for Hourly Paid Employees of Armco Inc. Pursuant to Agreement with the United Steelworkers of America, as amended effective January 1, 1981, and Agreement between Armco Inc and the United Steelworkers of America dated March 1, 1983, all of which would have been applicable to Mr. Howard immediately prior to the termination of his employment with Armco effective June 25, 1984.

Armco Inc. has been patient and has responded to these repetitive inquiries by your client, but will no longer do so.

Would you please advise your client of these circumstances, and that Armco Inc. considers the matter closed.

Very truly yours  
Jack D. Rowe

**LETTER FROM ATTORNEY EDWARD  
ALAN WILLIAMS SEEKING BENEFITS  
ON BEHALF OF ACQUANITA HOWARD  
(JULY 9, 1991)**

---

Edward Alan Williams  
Attorney at Law  
922 Oak Street  
Kansas City, MO 64106-2602  
(816) 421-0077  
FAX (816) 474-4567

Armco Steele  
1000 Roberts Road  
Kansas City, Missouri 64152

**ATTENTION: Employee Benefits**

**RE: My Client: Acquanita Howard  
Your Employee: Lewis L. Howard  
SS# 492-26-5050  
Badge #: 10339 Division Wire Rope**

Dear Madam/Sir:

I've been retained by Acquanita Howard with regards to surviving spouse benefits she should have received when her husband Lewis L. Howard died back on December 2, 1984. If you would please see that these benefits are paid and forward the check payable to Ms. Howard and myself. In addition if you would please send me a copy of the employment package that was in force at the time of his death. If you have any questions or cannot comply with my request please contact me.

**LETTER FROM R. G. GRAUPNER  
OF ARMCO STATING MR. HOWARD  
WAS NOT AN EMPLOYEE  
(JULY 21, 1986)**

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**ARMCO MIDWESTERN STEEL DIVISION**

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Mr. G. Michael Fatall  
Suite 1400(Bank of Kansas City Bldg.)  
1125 Grand  
Kansas City, MO 64106

Re: Louis L. Howard SSN XXX-XX-XXXX

Dear Mr. Fatall:

When Mr. Howard died on December 2, 1984, he was not an employee. Therefore, neither he nor his family were entitled to any benefits.

The case is closed and the Company does not wish to discuss it any further.

Yours truly,

/s/ R. G. Graupner  
Supervisor-Industrial  
Relations

**LETTER FROM GARY A. CRUTCHER  
OF ARMCO REJECTING FREEDOM OF  
INFORMATION REQUEST  
(JANUARY 4, 1990)**

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Mrs. Acquanitta L. Howard  
4026 East 56th Terrace, Apt. 4  
Kansas City, MO 64130

Dear Mrs. Howard:

We received your letters dated November 30, 1990 on Monday, December 10, 1990. Armco is not a government agency, and is not subject to the Freedom of Information Act provisions to which you refer.

As we have continuously advised you, and attorneys on your behalf, for at least the last four years, Louis Howard (SSN XXX-XX-XXXX) was terminated from his employment with Armco Inc. effective June 25; 1984, and was not an employee of Armco Inc. at any time thereafter. Specifically, Mr. Howard was not employed by Armco Inc. at the time of his death in December 1984, and accordingly, benefits were not available.

Enclosed are copies of letters dated June 2, 1986 to your attorney, Daniel J. Matula, and dated July 21, 1986 to your attorney, G. Michael Fatal. We also enclose copies of the Pension Agreement between Armco Inc. and United Steelworkers of America, effective July 31, 1980, with Summary Plan Description, FIB (Program of Insurance Benefits) for Hourly Paid Employees of Armco Inc. Pursuant to Agreement with United Steelworkers of America, as amended effective January 1, 1981, and Agreement between Armco Inc. and the United Steelworkers of America dated March 1,

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1983, all of which would have been applicable to Mr. Howard immediately prior to the termination of his employment with Armco effective June 25, 1984.

Very truly yours,  
Gary A. Crutcher

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST  
(NOVEMBER 30, 1990)**

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**From:** Mrs. Acquanitta L. Howard  
4026 E. 56 Terris (Apt. #4)  
Kansas City, MO 64130

**To:** Mr. John Crutcher (Head)  
Employee's Benefits Dept.  
Armco Steel Corporation (Sheffield)  
1000 Roberts  
Kansas City, Missouri (64108)

**Re:** Freedom of Information Request

Dear Mr. Crutcher

Pursuant to Title 5 U.S.C.A. Section 552 and other relevant provision of Armco Steel and your department's regulations, covering access to the Right of Information that your department has under its control relation to Benefits owed to employees in the event of death or injury. At present I am very much interested in obtaining the below listed document;

- (1). A complete copy of my deceased husband's work/employment file while he was employed at Armco Steel.
- (2). A copy of all Insurance policies taken out by Louis Stevenson Howard employee's badge #10399 while employed at Armco Steel Corp.
- (3). A copy of any/all insurance policies terminated or otherwise made out to Mr. Louis Stevenson Howard showing benefactor and all/any dates and times aforesaid policies were timed out or terminated.

- (4). A copy of any/all documents or letters showing that the benefactor of Mr. Louis Stevenson was contacted or received any benefits from your agency as a result of Mr. Howard's death.
- (5). A copy of any/all signed documents. Checks etc. Showing Armco Steel rendered any/all benefits to the deceased employee's wife, family, and any other named benefactor named in any legal insurance policies or any document in relation.
- (6). A copy of all/any document which govern the benefits of to families of deceased employees of Armco Steel with attached guidelines and or/regulations.
- (7). A copy of any/all letters or document forwarded to Mr. Acquanitta L. Howard from your agency (Armco Steel) informing her of her eligibility of any benefits she may receive as a result of her husband's death.

If I May please request that your department or agency will complete this request as soon as possible to enable me and my attorney to proceed with redress. I will also like to obtain a copy of your agency's regulations as may be provided for by the Freedom of Information Act, so I may adhere to approved provisions which I was therefore enable for any/all benefits.

Thus, it is my thinking that I am entitled to the requested information as a matter of Law. e.g. *see Berry v. Dept. of Justice*, 733 F.2d 1343 (D.C. Cir. 1984) and *Lykine v. United States*, 725 F.2d 1455 (D.C. Cir. 1984) which states that such disclosure request is reviewable by the courts ay my request pursuant to

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Title 5 U.S.C.A. Section 701-703. If this request is denied I may move the courts to compel your agency to provide the requested documents and materials. As herein request as it is a matter setout by the *Vaughn Index* (484 F.2d 820), a hearing provision is also provided on Motion if request. *See*, 5 U.S.C.A. Section 552 (a)(4)(d).

However, if there is any additional information your agency may require to promptly process this request, please feel free to contact me at the upon address. I sincerely hope that your agency will promptly provide me with the materials as requested herein. In the event that you might fall in the compliance with the Statutory Provisions of the Freedom of Information Act, the I will petition the Courts for an order to compel with Costs taxed to your department and corporation as to non-disclosure cost of litigation.

**Information on Deceased Husband:**

Name: Louis Stevenson Howard  
S.S. #: XXX-XX-XXXX  
Date of Birth: 2/11/28  
Armco Steel Employee's Badge: #10339

**Information on Myself:**

Mrs. Acquanitta L. Howard  
Social Sec. # XXX-XX-XXXX  
Date of Birth: 5/28/50  
Status: Deceased Employee's Wife

Accordingly, I shall await a reasonable time frame as may be deemed appropriately exhausted in the filling of this request. Without further notice I will move the court for an Injunction and order to compel

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you to comply with the mandates of the Act governing the Freedom of Information per *Berry, Supra*.

I thank you in advance for your time, assistance, and kind consideration in this matter of great importance to both myself and family. I shall remain as always.

Signed before me this 4th day of December, 1990.

Respectfully Yours

/s/ Acquanitta L. Howard

/s/ Daniel J. Nash

State of Missouri  
County of Jackson  
MCE: 10-20-92

**LETTER FROM ACQUANITTA L. HOWARD  
REQUESTING INFORMATION  
(NOVEMBER 30, 1990)**

---

Mrs. Acquanitta L. Howard  
4026 E. 56 Terris (Apt. #4)  
Kansas City, MO 64130

Mr. John Crutcher (Head)  
Employee's Benefits Dept.  
Armco Steel Corporation (Sheffield)  
1000 Roberts  
Kansas City, Missouri (64108)

Dear Mr. Crutcher,

I have taken the liberty of contact both yourself as well as others within yours department for over there (3) years period in regards to the benefits I and my children are entitled to as the spouse of a deceased employee of the Armco Steel Corporation.

I have an one occasion been advised through my attorney Mr. Don Butcher that in a conversation with you and himself that your department sent me a check as service benefits. Please be advised that there has never been any much check or monies forwarded to me from your office, or Armco Steel for any reason.

It is my most profound wish that we could straighten this matter out without such drastic measures as taking this matter before the Bar. I am entitled to benefits whereas my husband was employed with Armco Steel at the time of his death. Thus I shall fight to seek such benefits should your department not wish to adhere to its owe policies and regulations.

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The enclosure is a petition pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act of 1974, I would deeply appreciate your full cooperation in this matter, as well as all matters concerning the subject of the benefits owed to myself and family.

I shall await your response, and I thank you for your time and kind consideration as I shall remain as always.

Signed before me this 4th day of December, 1990.

Respectfully Yours

/s/ Acquanitta L. Howard

/s/ Daniel J. Nash  
State of Missouri  
County of Jackson  
MCE: 10-20-92

**LETTER FROM ATTORNEY G. MICHAEL  
FATALL REQUESTING INFORMATION  
(JULY 15, 1986)**

---

SHERIDAN, SANDERS & SIMPSON, P.C.  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
SUITE 1400, BANK OF KANSAS CITY BLDG.  
1125 GRAND AVENUE  
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI 64106  
(816) 421-6445

---

R.G. Graupner  
Supervisor-Industrial Relations  
Armco Midwestern Steel Division  
7000 Roberts St.  
Kansas City, MO 64125-1492

Re: Louis L. Howard  
SSN: XXX-XX-XX

I am working with Dan Matula regarding the claim of Louis L. Howard for death benefit and other monies to which he may have been entitled by reason of his employment with Armco.

You wrote Mr. Matula on June 2, 1986 informing him that Mr. Howard was not entitled to benefits because he allegedly walked off the job. I am attaching an authorization executed by his widow, Acquanitta Howard, allowing me to obtain copies of his file. Would you please send me copies of Mr. Howard's employment file, I will pay any reasonable photocopying expense you may charge.

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Very truly yours,

/s/ G. Michael Fatall  
For the Firm

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**AUTHORIZATION TO INSPECT  
EMPLOYMENT RECORDS**

This Authorization you to release to my attorneys, Daniel Matula and G. Michael Fatall, all employment records of my husband, Louis Howard, deceased, and to allow my attorneys to inspect and/or photocopy the employment records.

Dated this 15th day of July, 1986

/s/ Ms. Acquanitta L. Howard  
Supervising Spouse of Louis Howard

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