

**Burke County Office
of
Emergency Services**

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**Emergency Management
EMS Administration and Billing Office
Fire Marshal's Office
Training Division
Communications (Non-Emergency)**

May 14, 1992

Mr. Steven A. Badolato
Hartwell Medical Corporation
6352 CORTEdelABETO Suite J
Carlsbad, CA 92009-1408

Dear Mr. Badolato:

This letter is in reference to the VAC-U-SPLINT.

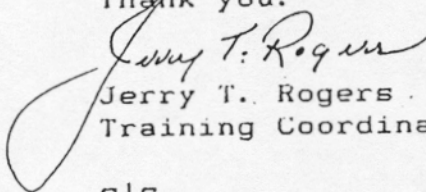
We provide a Paramedic service and have a very aggressive Administration, Training Division and Quality Assurance Program. The Training Division researches multiple medical products to assure the best patient care. Many products we field test are sidelined because they do not work as advertised or as we anticipated.

For years, we were not satisfied with longboards alone for hip fractures and spinal problems. The human anatomy varies too greatly for the longboard alone to really be effective, even with padding. To place the frail geriatric on the hard board with a fractured hip only increases the pain. One other weakness noted was that on fractures of the joints, some manipulation was noted, even when carefully applying splints.

Two years ago we field tested the VAC-U-SPLINT, after watching a demonstration at an annual conference. We would like to express our appreciation for the development of this product. We are more than satisfied with the performance and durability. Eight (8) units have been stocked with VAC-U-SPLINTs for two (2) years. During this period, we have had only two splints taken out of service due to damage at accident scenes.

The VAC-U-SPLINTs have become our standard.

Thank you.


Jerry T. Rogers
Training Coordinator

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