

As a witness

to the love of God,

revealed through

Jesus Christ
the Baptist Health

System is committed to ministries that

enhance the hearth

of those we serve

through Integrity

dignity, and wholeness

Compassion, Advocacy

Resourcefulness and Excellence Columbiana P.O. Box 1005 247 Walton Street Columbiana, Alabama 35051 256/669-9655 Fax 256/669-9653

Mr. Bernard A. Schwetz,

DVM Acting Commissioner

FDA Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition

Parklawn Building

5600 Fishers Lane

Room 1471

Mail stop HF-1

Rockville, MD 20857

Dear Mr. Schwetz:

Lam a physician practicing Internal Medicine in Columbiana, Alabama. Over the past two years I have treated a patient, Ms. Renee Wilder, on multiple occasions for allergic reactions to food products that have been handled with latex in both grocery stores and restaurants. Both the patient and I have informed the restaurants involved with little cooperation from the businesses involved. I have also contacted the Shelby County Health Department regarding this important health issue.

Each time my patient is exposed to latex, her reaction is more severe than the previous, despite allergy medications and the care of her allergist. As you know there are multiple patients across the country who have suffered from severe and even deadly reactions to latex, and latex allergies are becoming more common. Because of this, I as a physician feel it is imperative that food handlers be legally banned from using latex gloves in food preparation. Please consider federal legislation to accomplish this.

Ms. Wilder has given me permission to discuss her case with you and to provide you with her address if needed:

Renee Wilder 1180 Hwy 56 Wilsonville, AL 35186

Sincerely,

Rhonda Carter, M.D. Baptist Health Center

247 Walton St.

Columbiana, AL 35051

OOP-1322