

**From:** Ashley Gjovik ashleygjovik@apple.com  
**Subject:** Re: follow up  
**Date:** May 17, 2021 at 11:46 AM  
**To:** Helen Polkes polkes@apple.com



Hi! Just wanted to let you know — I forgot to tell you before I was OoO for exams — Sedgwick updated the claim to be “continuous trauma” including the years I’ve spent at Apple in various buildings on Superfund and other chemical release sites, not just Stewart 1. She said she put the claim to a 90 day delay as she continues to investigate Apple’s policy & oversight on these.

I let Jenna know a while back.

-Ashley

—  
**Ashley M. Gjovik**  
Apple Engineering Program Manager  
(408) 204-9976

On Apr 21, 2021, at 6:03 PM, Helen Polkes <polkes@apple.com> wrote:

Hi Ashley,

Thanks for letting me know.

Helen

On Apr 21, 2021, at 1:42 PM, Ashley Gjovik <ashleygjovik@apple.com> wrote:

Hi Helen! You were right to nudge me again —thank you! — apparently there’s no statute of limitations on these things.

Sedgwick just opened up a workers comp complaint for me about the several hour long near-fainting spell at my desk and in [REDACTED] office on 9/4/2019 starting at 12pm in SD01. Suspected cause is chemical vapor exposure. Claim # 302174831070001

I’ll let Dave, Dan, and Jenna know I actually filed it.

Thanks again.

—  
**Ashley M. Gjovik**  
Apple Engineering Program Manager  
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On Apr 19, 2021, at 12:32 PM, Helen Polkes <polkes@apple.com> wrote:

Hi Ashley,

I do suggest talking with Sedgwick if you believe what you experienced in 2019 was work related. They are our experts and can let you know any reporting requirements.

I know you’re out for a few days, please reach out when you’re back if you want to talk more about checking in with Sedgwick.

Thanks,

Helen

On Apr 14, 2021, at 3:58 PM, Ashley Gjovik <ashleygjovik@apple.com> wrote:

Hi Helen! I am glad too. Thank you again for chatting with me.

It looks like it’s far too late to report a Workers Comp claim, unfortunately.

*Get care and tell your manager*

*First, make sure you get the care you need. Then tell your manager as soon as you can. Your manager needs to fill out an incident report to start a workers’ compensation claim with Sedgwick.*

*If you work in California, you need to seek treatment from an approved medical provider **within 30 days of your illness of injury.***

I did tell both Dave and Dan about the incident within two weeks of it happening in 2019. At that time we had not made the

connection it could be related to the building. I have informed both Dave and Dan in the last week that I do believe that medical issue was more likely to be related to the building than not, based on all of the reports I've read.

I also talked to [REDACTED] about it (the 2019 incident happened with him in his office, and he's been following my recent EHS conversations with Stewart1) and he also agreed it doesn't seem like a coincidence. I requested that EHS do their vapor intrusion testing at my desk and his office, and he expressed appreciation that I asked to test near office because on my near-fainting inside and the historical vapor intrusion findings around his office above industrial limits.

Anyhow, I am taking mental health sick days starting tomorrow through next Tuesday. Dave approved without any questions.

Thank you again for your support. I appreciate you.

—  
**Ashley M. Gjøvik**  
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On Apr 13, 2021, at 4:43 PM, Helen Polkes <[polkes@apple.com](mailto:polkes@apple.com)> wrote:

Hi Ashley,

I am glad we connected today.

Along with the information about time away resources, I want to make sure you have information about Apple's [Workers' Compensation](#). You mentioned you thought a time when you fainted at work in 2019 might be a work related illness. Please let me know if you have questions after reviewing the information or you can reach out to Sedgwick.

If you have any other questions about time away, please let me know.

Thanks,

Helen

On Apr 8, 2021, at 5:49 PM, Helen Polkes <[polkes@apple.com](mailto:polkes@apple.com)> wrote:

Hi Ashley,

Thanks for reaching out and sharing what has been going on. It sounds like this is very difficult for you.

Your health is of the utmost importance. I want to make sure you know about Apple time away resources including Sedgwick, Apple's leave administrator. I have included the links and contact information below. If you have questions after reviewing, People Support is a great resource, they are our experts.

I will look for time for us to talk next week.

Thanks,

Helen

#### **Time Away Resources**

[Sick Pay](#)

[Medical Leave](#)

[Employee Assistance Program](#)

Sedgwick, Apple's leave and disability administrator: 855-702-7753

People Support: [peoplesupport@apple.com](mailto:peoplesupport@apple.com) or 800-473-7411 or 408-974-7411

On Apr 8, 2021, at 4:22 PM, Ashley Gjovik <[ashleygjovik@apple.com](mailto:ashleygjovik@apple.com)> wrote:

Hi Helen,

I hope you're well. I've been going through a lot this year and last year, and I'm struggling a bit at work.

I was hoping you might be willing to get a virtual coffee with me to chat about it. I don't have any specific requests but hoping you might have some ideas, and wanted you to know where I'm at.

Might help if you have time to read this before hand:

<https://sfbayview.com/2021/03/i-thought-i-was-dying-my-apartment-was-built-on-toxic-waste/>

Come to find out other people are mysteriously sick too. At least four other women with symptoms like mine so far. There's thousands of people living there though and we're only starting to spread the word. Article is up to over 33k views though... progress...

The government still won't investigate. I've spent 7 months trying to fight to get them to do something. Even with more sick people they won't. Met with a state senator yesterday and the mayor of Santa Clara city today... hopefully will make some impact.

Anyhow, I have a lot on my plate between this, work, and school. My mental health as been struggling. I'm seeing a therapist, but this type of PTSD sounds completely expected for what I've gone through and am still going through.

Anyhow, let me know. Thanks.

—

Ashley M. Gjovik

🍏 Engineering Program Manager

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