



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20463

August 16, 2001

Bobby R. Burchfield, Esq.
Covington & Burling
1201 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20004

RE: MUR 5141
Schering-Plough Corporation
Schering-Plough Corporation Better Government Fund

Dear Mr. Burchfield:

On November 7, 2000, the Federal Election Commission notified your clients of a complaint alleging certain violations of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended. A copy of the complaint was enclosed with that notification. As a result of a clerical error, on August 1, 2001, the Federal Election Commission notified your clients that the Commission had "determined to exercise its prosecutorial discretion and to take no action against the respondents." Please note in actuality, on July 17, 2001, the Commission found, on the basis of the information in the complaint and information provided by the respondents, that there was no reason to believe that your clients' violated the Act. Accordingly, the Commission closed its file in this matter on July 31, 2001. A Statement of Reasons explaining the Commission's decision will follow. We apologize for the August 1, 2001 letter and ask that you substitute this correspondence in its place.

The confidentiality provisions of 2 U.S.C. § 437g(a)(12) no longer apply and this matter is now public. In addition, although the complete file must be placed on the public record within 30 days, this could occur at any time following certification of the Commission's vote. If you wish to submit any factual or legal materials to appear on the public record, please do so as soon as possible. While the file may be placed on the public record prior to receipt of your additional materials, any permissible submissions will be added to the public record when received.

If you have any questions, please contact Kim C. Stevenson on our toll-free number, (800)-424-9530. Our local number is (202) 694-1650.

Sincerely,

Lois G. Lerner
Acting General Counsel

Abigail A. Shaine
BY: Abigail A. Shaine
Acting Associate General Counsel