

May 25, 2000

Mrs. Esther Stello
8613 Buckhorn Drive
Potomac, Maryland 20854

Dear Mrs. Stello:

The Board believes that individual leadership is an important mechanism for progress toward our goal of a productive and safe Department of Energy complex. Accordingly, the Board established in 1999 an annual award to recognize individuals that provide such leadership. The first award, the *DNFSB Safety Leadership Award*, was awarded to your husband, Vic, and was widely praised as deserved recognition for a great American. As you know, the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board has titled this award "The Victor Stello, Jr. Award for Safety Leadership."

On January 20, 2000, the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board made the second award of this honor to Joseph F. King, Office of Defense Programs, Department of Energy. The citation was as follows:

In recognition of outstanding service, exemplary performance, and admirable leadership in promoting public health and safety in the United States Department of Energy Defense Nuclear Complex. This leadership has contributed significantly to the effectiveness of safety management programs of the Department of Energy, resulting in safer conduct of potentially hazardous activities at Department of Energy defense facilities.

Mr. King's effective leadership and dedication to service in preparing facilities for startup, upgrading safety management programs, and developing nuclear safety directives were significant contributors to Integrated Safety Management improvements in the Department of Energy. Mr. King has set the standard for how to lead complex, multi-disciplined safety reviews and train team members for these reviews.

Mr. King's safety performance reflects great credit on himself, the Department of Energy and the United States of America.

Mr. King was a close associate of Vic's at the Department of Energy, and we know Vic would be proud of this award.

Enclosed is a photograph of the permanent plaque maintained at the offices of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board commemorating this award.

With warm personal regards to you and your children.

Sincerely,

John T. Conway
Chairman

Enclosure