



Investigation Respondent: Duty Staff at Organ Donation Office of Liaoning Province Red Cross Society

Investigation Date: November 30, 2020 (Tel: 86-24-82578057)

Summary:

1. Dalian has only about 20 donors a year.
2. This year, the whole province has 30, or maybe 40, donations.
3. Due to the pandemic, there was hardly any work done in the first half of the year.
4. Organ donations that are not coordinated and witnessed by Red Cross coordinators are illegal.

Investigation Recording

Investigator: Hello, how are you?

Duty Staff: Hello?

Investigator: Can you hear me now?

Duty Staff: Yes, go ahead.

Investigator: I'll go straight to the point. I just wanted to ask you...if we want to get a liver transplant, that is...I just wanted to ask...because the doctor said that the number of donated livers...and the waiting time....

Duty Staff: Oh.

Investigator: I am making this call to ask, approximately how long we need to wait before we get a donation. If there are many donations, the waiting time will be short, right? Is it true that organs for our transplants are all verified by the Red Cross Society? I just wanted to ask you how many donations there are.

Duty Staff: Ah, this donation numbers...this is how things are, organ donations are scarce. Why is that? Because it depends on luck. It's not like, if there are many donations you will get the transplant.

Investigator: What I wanted to know from you is, how many organs are there that are witnessed by you and that can be used for transplant? Let's say, for instance, the donations...they may not be used, are there many of those that can be used and that go through you?

Duty Staff: Ah, I can... I can tell you, approximately there are about 20 a year, about 20 a year.



Investigator: The 20 donations you were saying here are organs for us...for us recipients, the ones that can be used on patients, is that right? Or Do you mean 20 donations? And whether or not they can be used is still uncertain?

Duty Staff: They are donations, the number of donations is around 20.

Investigator: Oh.

Duty Staff: Just 20 plus cases. You just wanted to know how many organ donors there are in Dalian, right?

There are about 20 plus cases.

Investigator: 20 plus cases in Dalian. So the whole Liaoning Province...the whole Liaoning Province has...how many donations are there in the whole Liaoning Province? If there are donations in nearby places such as Shenyang or Jinzhou, they can be used in Dalian too, can't they? They are all places in Liaoning Province, aren't they? How many donations are there in all? If there are only 20 plus donations, I figure there's definitely no chance for us.

Duty Staff: Right.

Investigator: Ah, we won't wait...that is...we asked Director Wang, there are more than 1,000 people on the waiting list. They are all waiting, some got on the list earlier, others later, and there are those who signed up on multiple waiting lists. You said there are 20 donations a year, so we have very little chance. Tell me, how many donations in total are there for the province? Dalian is not the only city within your jurisdiction, don't just give me the number in Dalian, how many donations in total are there in the province?

Duty Staff: This... this number, well, this year, because of the pandemic, is relatively low, 30 something, 30 something, 30 something.

Investigator: Is that all for the whole province?

Duty Staff: Maybe 40. Right, right. There were fewer organ donations this year because of the pandemic.

Investigator: Then I...

Duty Staff: There was hardly any work done in the first half of the year.

Investigator: Okay, then I want to ask you...

Duty Staff: I can...I have told you what you wanted to know. Do you have any other questions?



Investigator: I wanted to ask you...tell me, the donations from emergency rooms...for instance, the kind that comes from sudden deaths due to vehicle accidents, do they go through your formalities and are they all included? Or is it like, only those who are alive and later sudden die registered with you? Are those who die in the hospital counted? Those who die in wards or emergency rooms? When they are all added up? They all go through you, right?

Duty Staff: Let me put it this way for you.

Investigator: Okay, go ahead.

Duty Staff: When you want to do something good for other people,

Investigator: Okay, go on.

Duty Staff: You need a third party to witness it. And so we're that third party I referred to.

Investigator: Oh.

Duty Staff: That is, we get involved only when we are asked to, otherwise we won't.

Investigator: Oh.

Duty Staff: You have to contact us if you want to do a good thing.

Investigator: Oh.

Duty Staff: So that you will be able to do this good thing. If you don't contact us, we have no way of knowing you want to do something good.

Investigator: Oh.

Duty Staff: Isn't that right? That's how it works.

Investigator: Okay, now I understand. You mean the emergency room...if the hospital doesn't have...I mean if they don't tell you, so you can't witness it, perhaps they go ahead using it, and that's fine too, right? If we are at the hospital, if we happen to have a voluntary donation there...since the surgery can be done in the hospital.

Duty Staff: This...



Investigator: Yeah, is that right? Do I understand you correctly?

Duty Staff: All these organs are...your understanding is not correct.

Investigator: What?

Duty Staff: Your understanding is not correct. For organ donations to happen, they must be done in a legal way.

They have to be witnessed by a donation coordinator as the third party from the Red Cross Society.

Investigator: Oh.

Duty Staff: Organ donations would be illegal without being coordinated and witnessed by Red Cross Society coordinators.

Investigator: Ah, oh, so that will not...

Duty Staff: Do you understand what I mean?

Investigator: Oh, I now got it. It's not like, if someone says he agrees on a donation, so the hospital can do the transplant for the patient. It can't be done that way, right? It must go through you. Otherwise, it's illegal.

Duty Staff: It's not like whoever wants to make a donation can just do it.

Investigator: Oh, I got it. They all have to go through you.

Duty Staff: Do you have any other questions, ones I can answer for you?

Investigator: No more questions. Okay, I got it. This is all I wanted to ask. Okay, thanks, and bye.

Duty Staff: Okay.