Dear Dr. Chen,

Thank you for reaching out to me.

Ensuring the accuracy and integrity of the published scientific record is the primary purpose of the University's investigative process. The University's obligation is to inform the publisher when the investigation committee finds a paper's conclusions or other sections (such as figures) are undermined. The University considers the intent of any Respondent to be a personnel matter, which is confidential under Maryland law therefore I will not be able to provide the requested evidence.

Sincerely,

Stephan.

From: Chen, Tony <tchen@wiley.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 19, 2021 12:58 PM
To: Vigues, Stephan <svigues@umaryland.edu>
Subject: Article in Molecular Carcinogenesis

CAUTION: This message originated from a non-UMB email system. Hover over any links before clicking and use caution opening attachments.

Dear Dr. Vigues,

My name is Tony Chen and I am the Journal Publishing Maager for Molecular Carcinogenesis at Wiley. I just wanted to thank you for your letter (attqached) and wanted to follow-up with you on a series of questions I have.

The error in this article seems to be confined to one panel of one figure. Our independent experts looked at that this and were unable to determine with certainty that this was falsification rather than honest error, so I wanted to reach out and ask if you have additional evidence that suggests that this was falsification rather than error. This will help determine what our next steps are. Thank you for your time and I hope you had a happy new year holiday!

Best Wishes, Tony Chen, Ph.D. Editor I Wiley 101 Station Landing, Suite 300 Medford, MA 02155 tchen@wiley.com T +1 781 388 8402 C +1 781 957 5055