

Code A

Paul Kernaghan QPM. LL.B MA. DPM. MIPD.
 Chief Constable
 Hampshire Constabulary HQ
 Wish Hill
 Winchester
 Hants
 SO22 5D

6th August 2004.

Dear Chief Constable Kernaghan

I enclose a copy of a statement dated 27 April 1999 referring to a meeting with Gosport CID on 2 October 1998.

To date this statement has been 'filed' in the Professional Standards Office and the information concerning the Registrar's office, death certificate, Registrar's behaviour or my sister accepting a Death certificate knowing it to be false has not been referred to the coroner by the police or taken up with my sister. "Five investigations" involving my mother's case have never included these facts.

My sister's statement made to Ray Burt circa March 2000 did not include this information. I do not accept the explanation from my sister that it was not considered necessary, when this is crucial information and medical evidence from a nurse. I have brought up this matter time and time again to various officers and through desperation have now brought it to the attention of the coroner and the media.

Accepting a false Death Certificate is a criminal offence and my sister is well aware of it. Bereavement is not considered to be a foundation for diminished responsibility. I would draw your attention to the fact that Mrs. Lack did offer to make a Statement at Gosport in October 1998, allegedly was informed it was not necessary by Ray Burt when making a Statement circa March 2000 (I do not believe it) and has since visited Operation Rochester with the sole intention of pressing the point. She was given cups of tea by Code A but no Statement was taken. I brought up the subject in December 2002 during a visit by DI Nigel Niven and Code A. The entire interview was supposed to be on tape with a copy tape for me. The police tape machine was faulty but it took almost four months before the Police would admit that their tape was inaudible as was my copy. However I was assured that a note had been made but until yesterday, 4 August no action was taken.

Incompetence has been compounded time and time again since day one. of this investigation The Professional Standards Department has a part to play in upholding the law and I find it difficult to understand when Supt. Lockwood handed over the case papers to Supt. Steve Watts who supervised DCI Ray Burt, it was not considered necessary to include this statement.

In conclusion and because I have no other option, I now make a formal complaint of a criminal offence committed by my sister, Mrs. L. F. Lack which has been totally ignored at least three times, by the Hampshire Constabulary despite the fact that it

was a source of crucial evidence. As I have stated before, the buck stops at Police HQ and in particular the Professional Standards Department under the jurisdiction of the Deputy Chief Constable. This matter could have been brought to the attention of Mr. Readhead informally and verbally but his Secretary (PA ?) refused to take a message or telephone call from me. This is not a matter for the newly appointed DCI David Williams or the Family Liaison Officer Code A.

To date I have had little evidence of professionalism over a period of almost six years with the exception of Ray Burt and Dan Clacher. Now that I have found it necessary to take this action I hope someone will get the police act together. It is possible that had my case been investigated properly from the beginning some deaths may have been avoided. The CHI Report has at least improved the procedures at the Gosport War Memorial Hospital.

Yours sincerely

G.M. Mackenzie (Mrs)

Copy:
David Horsley Coroner Portsmouth
Simon Hayes Hampshire Police Authority
Lawrence Lustgarten IPCC