

Gospart.

White, John

Subject: Gosport - Dr Barton

Dear All

Re Meeting with the CPS

Thanks for your patience. The end of last week turned out to be very manic with a case going to Court. I have been racking my brains about meeting with the CPS, as below.

Just to update you : -

**Meeting with Norman Lamb
3 November 2009**

These were Stephen Lloyd's comments to me a few days ago. It looks like its up to us to organise the photographer. I wondered about TV cameras even.

" had an excellent catch-up with Norman. He is very, very fired up about this issue so please reassure your clients that though its been a terribly long haul fro them, we are going to put all our efforts behind this case. On that score. He's fine on the pr front but suggests your photographer either (a) joins us and we take the photo inside or (b) waits downstairs and we take a group pic outside. Let me know which you prefer."

Would you like me to organise some coverage? - or equally I am happy if you would prefer to use your contacts.

Meeting with CPS

This is difficult. Perhaps if I summarise as a list : -

- There is no question that the CPS will meet us. They have already agreed to meet;
- Any meeting must be families and lawyers together - no "divide and rule";
- Initially I got the impression that Paul Close was trying simply to "contain us". I think things have moved on since then;
- It strikes me that Hampshire Constabulary really need to be behind a prosecution; the CPS alone will not have enough drive;
- I had a good conversation last week with DI Grocott. I formed the impression that he was genuinely looking at things. In particular we both agreed that the crucial thing is that there is now evidence on oath from Dr Barton. The transcripts are now the key. Both the CPS and the police are looking at these. My impresson of DI Grocott's view was however that he did not really want our direct input in the re-evaluation process. This, I know, contradicts our own instincts and wishes to be able to influence a successful outcome.

This is where it becomes tricky really and I need your help. Should we : -

- (i) Encourage Paul Close and DI Grocott to get on with it and ask for the meeting to take place after their re-evaluation; or
- (ii) Press on and just meet with Paul Close as soon as possible. My worry about that is that until the Police and Counsel have made progress, there is a risk that we will not get much out of him.

I wonder if its best for me to press Paul Close to commit to date by which at least an initial re-evaluation has been done of the new evidence and ask for this to be as soon as possible. I wanted to canvass this with you first in case you feel that (ii) above is better.

Please can you let me know your views. I look forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes

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