

# Code A

18 June 2007

Chief Constable P R Kernaghan  
 Hampshire Constabulary  
 Police Headquarters  
 West Hill  
 Winchester  
 SO22 5DB

Dear Chief Constable Kernaghan,

**Operation Rochester (Mr Arthur Dennis Brian Cunningham)**

I refer to your letter to Mr Peter Viggers, MP dated 29 May 2007 relating to the death of my step-father at the Gosport War Memorial Hospital.

You say that Mr Cunningham was suffering from a progressive illness which resulted in his terminal decline, also that:

- (1) The police investigation took statements from some 35 healthcare professional, and
- (2) That healthcare expert witnesses agreed unanimously with the police conclusions

I am therefore rather keen to know the names of the 35 healthcare professionals, as I only know of six who had any connection with him at any stage during his final few days.

In addition, you might care to note that I am aware of a number of factual inaccuracies in the 'expert witness' reports from only the short extracts that were read to me by Mr Paul Close of the Criminal Prosecution Service. I am therefore very concerned that the CPS are likely to have made an incorrect legal decision based on unreliable information.

Please be advised that I was personally present on the day of Mr Cunningham's admission, and also from 48 hours later until his death, and can confirm that the only reason for his admission was bed sores. The reason for his terminal decline was without doubt the excessive drugs that were forced into him by a syringe-driver that the medical staff refused to remove when asked.

I am also very keen to know why it was necessary to progressively increase the cocktail of drugs from the point of my second visit 48 hours after admission, as by then he was totally comatose and unable to communicate. Please also note that he was deprived of any hydration.

I would also like to know if the police took a statement from his GP who, presumably, would have asked for his admission, or the staff of the Thalasa Care Home, as the family were not aware of any concerns by these two bodies as to Mr Cunningham's long term health.

With regard to Prof Baker's report, you might care to note that Mr Cunningham was one of the final ten cases considered, and therefore his report has particular significance to me.

Until these questions are answered I will never be able to put this matter behind me and, in view of the fact that you feel you are unable to let me have copies of the relevant report, I would be willing to meet with you to discuss the various issues in person.

Yours sincerely,

# Code A

C R Stewart-Farthing

Copy to: Mr Peter Viggers, MP  
 Mr D C Horsley, H M Coroner

Not yet replied