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WITNESS STATEMENT

(CJ Act 1967, s.9; MC Act 1980, ss.5A(3) (a) and 5B; MC Rules 1981, r.70)

Statement of: LORD, ALTHEA EVERESTA GERADETTE

Age if under 18:   Over 18   (if over 18 insert 'over 18')   Occupation: COMMUNITY GERIATRICIAN

This statement (consisting of 7 page(s) each signed by me) is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated anything which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.

Signed: A LORD   Date: 10/12/2004

I am Doctor Althea Everesta Geradette LORD and I am currently employed by the East Hants Primary Care Trust as a Community Geriatrician for Fareham and Gosport Primary Care Trust. I have held this position since the 21st June 2004 (21/06/2004).

In 1978 I graduated from the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Sri Lanka, Colombo. I obtained an MB (Bachelor of Medicine) and a BS (Bachelor of Surgery).

In 1983 I obtained a post graduate qualification as a Doctor of Medicine at the University of Sri Lanka, Colombo.

I worked at the General Hospital, Colombo as a Senior House Officer and a Registrar in General Medicine until May 1984.

From May 1984 I was employed as a Registrar in Nephrology under the supervision of Professor H A LEE at the Renal Unit at St Mary's Hospital, Portsmouth. I held this position until October 1985.

Between October 1985 to September 1988 I was employed as a Registrar in Geriatric Medicine at St Mary's and Queen Alexandra Hospitals, Portsmouth .

From October 1988 until March 1992 I was employed as a Senior Registrar on a rotation between Southampton and Portsmouth Hospitals.

Signed: A LORD   Signature Witnessed by: Code A
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From the March 1992 until June 2004 I was employed as a Consultant Geriatrician for the Department of Medicine for older people in Portsmouth. During this period I worked at Queen Alexandra, St Mary's and Gosport War Memorial Hospitals .

In 1997 I obtained a F.R.C.P which is the Fellowship of the Royal College of Physicians.

My General Medical Council Registration Number is 3364187.

Between 1996 and June 2004, as a Consultant Geriatrician, my responsibilities included:-

In-patients at Queen Alexandra Hospital.
In-patients at Daedalus Ward of Gosport War Memorial Hospital.
In-patients at Kingsclere Rehabilitation Ward at St Mary's Hospital.

I also conducted Day Hospital sessions at :-
Amulree Day Hospital at St Mary's Hospital
Dolphin Day Hospital at Gosport War Memorial Hospital

These sessions alternated every week.

In addition I held out-patients sessions weekly at St Mary's Hospital and out-patient sessions on the first, third and fifth weeks at Gosport War Memorial Hospital.

I was consultant for all these patients who required specialist care for their physical health.

All these patients would have been over the age of 65 years.

During 1999 I would have been making weekly ward rounds as consultant responsible for Daedalus Ward of Gosport War Memorial. This together with my out-patient sessions and Dolphin Day Hospital sessions meant that I would attend Gosport War Memorial Hospital at least once, but most often twice a week.

Signed: A LORD
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Another consultant who had similar responsibilities for Dryad Ward of Gosport War Memorial Hospital was Doctor Richard Ian REID .

During any short term absences of Dr REID I would provide cover for his patients on Dryad Ward. This would not have been on a formal ward round basis but I would have responded to any problem, if alerted by the Clinical Assistant, Doctor BARTON or a member of the nursing staff.

On occassion of any long term absence a 'Locum' would have been sought to cover my responsibilities.

I have been asked what involvement I had in the treatment of and the medical condition of a patient called Elsie DEVINE , date of birth 26th June 1911 (26/06/1911).

Mrs DEVINE was an in-patient on Dryad Ward of Gosport War Memorial Hospital from 21st October 1999 (21/10/1999) until her death on 21st November 1999 (21/11/1999).

Mrs DEVINE had been transferred from Queen Alexandra Hospital, Portsmouth having been admitted there on 9th October 1999 (09/10/1999).

I first wish to state that I have no personal recollection of any involvement with Elsie DEVINE.

From 29th September 1999 (29/09/1999) until 15th November 1999 (15/11/1999) I had a long period of sick leave. During this period a Locum Consultant Physician in Geriatrics was appointed to cover my responsibilities. This consultant was Dr W K JAYAWARDENA .

I have examined the medical records of Elsie DEVINE bearing exhibit reference BJC/16.

From my examination of these notes/medical records I have found no entries or notes to indicate that I had any direct contact with Elsie DEVINE or that any contact was made to me regarding

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the care/treatment of this lady.

I note that my name does appear on exhibit BJC/16/PG/18&19 which is a 'Discharge Spell Summary Form'. My name appears against the heading Consultant and shows as Dr A LORD.

I also note from exhibit BJC/16/PG/20&21 a letter from Dr W K JAYAWARDENA to Dr H DUNCAN stating his intention to arrange for Mrs DEVINE to be transferred to Gosport War Memorial Hospital.

This letter is dated 20th October 1999 (20/10/1999) and was during the period that Dr JAYAWARDENA was providing locum cover during my absence.

This could possibly account for my name appearing on this document exhibit BJC/16/PG/18&19.

On the same document against the heading 'Ward' the letters 'Dry' appear. This is an abbreviation for 'Dryad'. 'Dryad Ward' was the responsibility of Dr Richard Ian REID at that time.

Taken by: Code A

Signed: A LORD
2004(1)

Signature Witnessed by: Code A