

Close Paul

From: Close Paul
Sent: 16 August 2010 12:19
To: 'Grocott, David'
Subject: FW: Gladys Richards (deceased)

FYI. 1 of 3

From: Close Paul
Sent: 13 August 2010 17:22
To: 'White, John'
Subject: FW: Gladys Richards (deceased)

John,

Thank you for this information. I was aware that you acted for Mrs Mackenzie. Your client left a long voicemail for me a couple of days ago. Obviously I could not reply to her.

As I believe your client is well aware I have no further papers from the police to consider. It is a matter entirely for the police to determine what steps, if any, which they take to gather evidence and whether or not to submit it the CPS for consideration. I have absolutely no power to compel them to do so.

I have written, in detail, to you and separately to the other unrepresented families. I had originally planned to send details to you electronically today. However I have now decided not to do so, merely as it now seems inevitable that the unrepresented families may receive their letters rather later than your clients. Thus in an attempt to achieve parity, at least as best I can, I now propose to post all letters next Monday, in the anticipation that all recipients will receive them on Tuesday.

I do not recall a meeting with Mrs Mackenzie ever being declined on the lines you suggest. The original prosecution was discontinued, some years ago, due to insurmountable problems with the expert evidence obtained by the police.

I believe that since then the police have concentrated their efforts and investigative resources into the other cases.

I suggest that I arrange to speak with you next week regarding the matter generally. I am aware that your client wishes to bring evidence or information to the attention of the police. I cannot receive or comment on such material as I have no investigatory powers and, as I have mentioned, I cannot compel the police to take any specific action.

I should also mention that I have not had any contact with the Coroner regarding the date for holding of an inquest in the above matter. Obviously that is a decision entirely for him to determine. I am not too sure now why it was delayed or not heard with the other cases.

I hope this helps/clarifies things a little.

Paul

From: White, John [Code A]
Sent: 12 August 2010 18:02
To: Close Paul
Subject: Gladys Richards (deceased)

Hi!

Re Gladys Richards (deceased) - Gosport War Memorial Hospital

16/08/2010

I hope things are going well with you.

I have been reminded by Mrs Gillian MacKenzie, daughter of the late Gladys Richards, to remind you that I act for her; further to your email earlier this week. She has also asked me to impress on you that she wants to ensure that her case is being considered along with the others and that she feels that she has additional evidence to offer.

My understanding is that you will be giving a substantive response soon. Please may I ask you to ensure that : -

- The late Mrs Richards' case is included; and
- If necessary, Mrs MacKenzie might have the opportunity of meeting with you to provide additional information is that is needed. Previously this was requested but you declined, citing her case as being one of the weaker ones and that the expert had not responded well to examination in conference.

I am looking forward to hearing from you as soon as possible.

Best wishes

John

John C White
Partner
Clinical Negligence Department



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16/08/2010