

APP.A. 14.5.5

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H A M P S H I R E C o n s t a b u l a r y

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Our Ref. HQ/CID/E/DCI/2000

Your Ref.

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9 March 2000

Miss Code A
Patient Relations Manager
Quality Department
Royal Hospital Haslar
GOSPORT
Hampshire
PO12 2AA

IN CONFIDENCE

Dear Miss Cross,

Ref: Mrs Richards Deceased

Thank you for sparing the time to assist Professor LIVESLEY and myself yesterday afternoon. I know how busy you must be and your support is appreciated.

I am investigating an allegation that Gladys Mable RICHARDS may have been unlawfully killed whilst she was an admitted patient at the Gosport War Memorial Hospital during August 1998.

My role, as the Senior Investigating Officer, is to gather evidence which will enable a decision to be made as to whether such an allegation is sustainable on the available facts.

In order to do this effectively it will be necessary for me to focus, primarily, on the last 3-4 weeks of Mrs RICHARDS' life.

The events arising during this period will, in various ways, have influenced the condition of Mrs RICHARDS' health and it is absolutely essential, in the interests of everyone concerned, that all relevant material be made available to inform the decision making process.

To this end I am sure that the Royal Hospital Haslar will wish to maintain the helpful and co-operative relationship which has been developed thus far in this case.



HAMPSHIRE Constabulary

I have clearly indicated that Mrs RICHARDS' family hold the Royal Hospital Haslar in high regard. However, it is important for me to be able to access all available information about the treatment Mrs RICHARDS received there and, furthermore, to have the benefit of any observations made by Royal Hospital Haslar staff regarding her condition at various points during the period of admission from the end of July 1998 until final discharge on the 17th August 1998.

To this end may I please request the following information which I consider to be relevant to my investigation:

- Would you please provide me with copies of all records in the possession of the Royal Hospital Haslar relating to Mrs RICHARDS two periods of admission in the period from the end of July 1998 until the 17th August 1998 inclusive including the drug charts.
- Would you please identify the staff members who authorised Mrs RICHARDS discharge on the 17th August 1998 and were responsible for her care during the 48 hours prior to her departure, that day, for the Gosport War Memorial Hospital.
- Would you please provide me with details of the arrangements made for Mrs RICHARDS transfer from her bed at the Royal Hospital Haslar, on the 17th August 1998, to the Gosport War Memorial Hospital. Could I please have a copy of the Transport Request Form and details of the transport provider.
- Professor LIVESLEY was enabled to examine certain x-ray images during his visit. Would you kindly enquire whether there are others in existence which were not available yesterday.
- It appears that Mrs RICHARDS may have been treated on previous occasions at the Royal Hospital Haslar. Would you please provide me with details of these other occasions. If you recall, the following dates were queried during our visit - 5/7/96, 12/4/98 and 17/7/98.

I hope that this clarifies the position and I look forward to hearing from you. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any concerns or queries.

Yours sincerely

R J BURT
Detective Chief Inspector