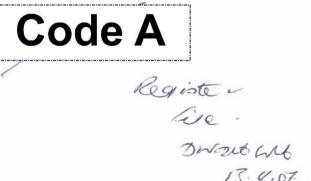
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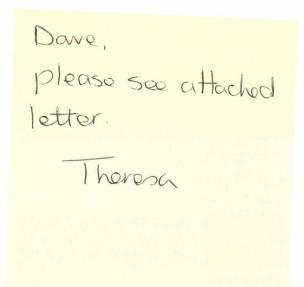
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Coroner's Office Room T20 The Guildhall Guildhall Square Portsmouth PO1 2AJ

13. U. 07 Fax: 023 9268 8331



Mr P Close Special Crime Division CPS 50 Ludgate Hill London EC4M 7EX

6 March 2007

Dear Sir

## Hampshire Police – Operation Rochester:

I am in receipt of your letter dated 1 March.

If you are familiar with Inquests, you will appreciate that an Inquest is not like a criminal investigation and the evidence a Coroner hears is not just limited to evidence given in statements to the Police. Hence it can happen that fresh and previously unknown evidence can come to light in an Inquest that can cause the Coroner to refer the matter to the Police for investigation or reinvestigation, as the case may be.

Your decision not to let me see Counsels' Opinions in this matter is disappointing and somewhat unhelpful – particularly as there appears to be no consistent rule on the part of the CPS in this regard; the CPS have previously given other Coroners and myself copy Opinions in potential unlawful killing cases.

Yours faithfully

David C Horsley Tel: C Code A Email: david.horsley@portsmouthcc.gov.uk

cc Asst. Chief Constable S Watts, Hampshire Police

HCO001250-0004

Carmen Dowd Head of Special Crime Division

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Special Crime Division 50 Ludgate Hill London EC4M 7EX

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David C Horsley Her Majesty's Coroner Coroner's Office Room T 20 The Guildhall Guildhall Square Portsmouth PO1 2AJ

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1 March 2007

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## Dear Sir

## Hampshire Police – Operation Rochester

Thank you for your letter of 14 February 2007. I am sorry for the short delay in replying to you but I have been away from the office.

I hope all the existing evidence has been submitted by the police to this office and considered. I am not sure what further evidence you envisage may be forthcoming at the inquest.

As you know, the CPS does not disclose its communications with Counsel to third parties. Accordingly, I regret I cannot comply with your request.

Yours faithfully



**Paul Close Special Crime Division** 

RECEIVED BY H.M. CORONER 0 5 MAR 2007