

Other Document Form

Number

D1191

Title **COPY LETTER DCI GIVEN TO MRS HARCOURT 4/10/2004**
 (Include source and any document number if relevant)

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Further actions no(s)

Code A

Indexer

O/M

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HAMPSHIRE CONSTABULARY

Paul R. Kernaghan QPM LL.B MA DPM MCIPD
Chief Constable

Fareham Police Station
Quay Street
Fareham
Hampshire
P016 ONA

Our Ref. Operation Rochester

Tel. 0845 0454545
Fax. 023 92891663

Your Ref.

4th October 2004

Mrs D Harcourt

Code A

Dear Mrs Harcourt,

I write further to my letter of the 20th September 2004, regarding the issues you raised in your earlier letter of the 12th September 2004.

I have reviewed the conclusions of the clinical team and our independent medical/legal advisor. These conclusions were based on the analysis of your father's medical records and the information provided by yourself.

Their view is that the treatment of your father was indeed sub-optimal, but not sufficient to consider that there had been unlawful criminal activity in respect of this treatment. Our investigation from the onset has been to identify if any criminal offences have been committed and if so, by whom.

Having studied the material available, the various experts have identified the key aspects of your father's treatment and on the basis that it cannot be considered to be unlawful criminal activity, we have consequently referred your father's case to the General Medical Council (GMC).

It will now be a matter for the GMC to determine any other course of action. It may be useful for you to speak with the GMC in due course. Our point of liaison there is Mr Paul Hylton. In addition, it may be useful for you to speak with Ann Alexander of Alexander Harris as she may advise you further on this matter.

If I can be of any other assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at the above address.

Yours sincerely

Nigel Niven
T/Detective Chief Inspector

Copy

OD & RGM SEA.



Full response required *01146.*
H A M P S H I R E C o n s t a b u l a r y

Chief Constable Paul R. Kernaghan QPM LL.B MA DPM MCIPD

Our Ref. :

Your Ref. :

Fareham Police Station
 Quay Street
 Fareham
 Hampshire
 PO16 0NA

Diane Harcourt

Code A

Tel: 0845 045 45 45

Direct Dial: **Code A**

Fax: 023 9289 1663

Email:

20 September 2004

Dear Ms Harcourt,

Thank you for your letter of 12th September 2004, the contents of which has been noted. Thank you also for promptly returning the signed medical records disclosure document. I will consider the issues raised by you and I will respond in full as soon as I am in a position to do so.

Yours sincerely,

Nigel Niven
 T/DCI

D1145

Diane Harcourt

Code ATo..David Williams, Detective Super.
Fareham Police Stn., Fareham PO16ONA

12/09/04

Ref operation Rochester, Gosport War Memorial Hospital.

Dear Sir,

Thank you for your letter dated 6/9/04.

I wish to protest the conclusion that whilst my father was given 'sub optimal' treatment there will be no further police action.

My father was injected with what turned out to be a lethal dose of Diamorphine.

The facts are that he was admitted to Haslar Hospital for Gall Bladder surgery which was successful, and because his wife (my mother) who was in her eighties was unable to cope with his convalescence in their one bed flat, he was admitted to the War Memorial for convalescence.

Though he was a late onset diabetic, his medication for that problem was withheld.

This resulted in a deterioration in his circulation and an ulcerated heel. The pain killers were administered to help relieve the pain.

I was later phoned at home to give the hospital permission to inject morphine but I would not give that permission.

They then asked my mother and I suppose she gave permission in complete ignorance of the probable outcome.

Another serious problem is that they lied on his death certificate i.e. We visited him daily and apart from confusion probably brought about by the lack of diabetic medicine, there was no sign of senility, (which doesn't come on in a week) yet this was given as a cause of death.

The other condition noted on the certificate was pneumonia, but unless this came on overnight, it is a lie, as he was not suffering from chest pains, coughing or any other symptom associated with pneumonia.

The actual cause of death was an overdose of Diamorphine

I consider the recorded cause of death an insult to his memory and do not propose to drop the matter until this is changed.

Many Thanks,

Code A