



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

Paul R. Kernaghan QPM LL.B MA DPM MCIPD
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27 February 2002

Mr I Wilson

Code A

Dear Mr Wilson

I am writing as promised following our meetings of last week concerning police enquiries at Gosport War Memorial Hospital.

I enclose for your information the current list of persons who have agreed to release their contact details. I may need to update the list at a later stage depending upon some outstanding replies.

I also promised to advise you about the form of words required to write to us to obtain copies of the reports I mentioned to you. The following deals with the advice I received from our Force solicitor.

It is not for the Hampshire Constabulary to give you legal advice but the following points about disclosure of any documents in our possession might help. We are able to disclose reports, which have not been in the public domain to regulatory bodies concerned with health and safety. The court case, which established the principle, was Woolgar -v- Sussex Police. However, there are limitations as to what we can disclose when the documents have not been referred to in open court as would be the situation if there had been criminal proceedings. As far as the civil law is concerned it is possible to seek non-party disclosure under Part 31 of the Civil Procedure Rules. Therefore if you were thinking of some civil redress you will be well advised to consult a solicitor who will no doubt be able to deal with disclosure issues involving the Hampshire Constabulary where we would not be a party to any civil litigation.

The precise nature of the advice is marginally different from my understanding and briefing to you but I am sure you will appreciate does not change our position in principle.



HAMPSHIRE Constabulary

Should you decide to instruct a solicitor he/she can contact the Force solicitor direct as below.

Mr M. WOODFORD MBE
Force Solicitor
Hampshire Constabulary
Police Headquarters
WINCHESTER
SO22 5DB

I hope this provides you with sufficient information at this stage. Should you wish to speak to me again may I remind you I will be back at this office on the 26th March.

Yours sincerely

Code A

J JAMES
Detective Superintendent