

Horsley, David

From: Horsley, David
Sent: 15 July 2008 11:26
To: Code A
Subject: Legal representation at an inquest

Victoria,

It's for families themselves to decide whether they want to have legal representation at an Inquest. In many cases where complex issues are involved such as points of law or expert scientific or medical evidence, it can be helpful for lay people to have their interests represented by lawyers. The Inquests that I have opened in relation to ten deaths of patients at Gosport War Memorial Hospital will involve the hearing of complicated evidence on medical and other matters. Therefore, the employment of lawyers is something that all interested persons, not just the families of the deceased patients, should give thought to. If they decide to engage legal representatives as a result, they are perfectly entitled to do so.

David C. Horsley
H.M. Coroner
Portsmouth & South East Hampshire

-----Original Message-----

From: Coroners Office
Sent: 15 July 2008 10:08
To: Horsley, David
Subject: FW: legal representation at an inquest

-----Original Message-----

From: Victoria Taylor [mailto:Code A]
Sent: 15 July 2008 10:02
To: Coroners Office
Subject: legal representation at an inquest

Hello Mr Horsley

I'm writing a story about the Gosport War Memorial case and would appreciate a comment from yourself.

15/07/2008

Charity Action against Medical Accidents is already supporting some of the families and is urging all ten to team up for a unified approach and legal representation ahead of a pre-inquest hearing next month.

The families know it is not necessary to have legal representation at an inquest.

But this appeal for a united front could suggest families do not get the best out of an inquest unless they do.

I'd like to include your comments on the need for legal representation at an inquest in light of this plus any other point you feel needs making.

If you could get back to me in the next few hours I'd be very appreciative.

Please give me a ring on **Code A** or drop me an email.

Thank very much

Victoria

Victoria Taylor

Crime reporter

The News

The News Centre, London Road, Hilsea, Portsmouth, PO2 9SX.

Code A



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