

Our Ref: CG/rs/Gosport/GMC

17 February 2009

A.M. Bradley HM Coroner, North East Hants Division Godlings London Road Basingstoke Hampshire RG21 4AN Royal College of Nursing 11/15 Dix's Field Exeter Devon EX1 1QA

Chris Green RCN Legal Officer & Solicitor

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Email Code A

Dear Mr Bradley

## Re: Gosport War Memorial Hospital

Further to my letter of yesterday's date, I understand that Gillian Hamblin received a witness summons this morning, requiring her to attend the inquest at Portsmouth Combined Courts, on 26<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009.

I now have a medical report by Gillian Hamblin's GP, and have obtained her permission to send this to you. I therefore enclose the report by Dr Morgan, dated 4<sup>th</sup> February 2009. Naturally, I ask you to respect the extremely sensitive nature of this information.

You will see that Gillian Hamblin's condition would make it very difficult for her to give evidence, unless special facilities are available.

I need to add that Gillian Hamblin has recently had further acute episodes of rectal bleeding, for which she has attended A+E. There is no definite diagnosis for these. Her GP was not aware of these at the time of his report.

In the circumstances, I ask that Gillian Hamblin be released from her witness summons.

A BBC researcher, Sarah White, has called on witnesses without warning. She attempted to conduct doorstep interviews with them. It appears that she has a witness list and has access to the witnesses' statements.

I thought that I should notify you of this. Clearly, it would not be appropriate for witnesses to give media interviews before giving evidence.

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Many thanks.

Yours sincerely

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Chris Green RCN Legal Officer & Solicitor