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**I R Readhead LL.B**  
Deputy Chief Constable

Your Ref:

Our Ref:

Ms J Snowsill  
Hampshire Police Authority  
Westgate Chambers  
Staple Gardens  
Winchester  
Hampshire  
SO23 8AW

*Hazel*  
*—*  
*Please forward*  
*to CH Janet Stevens for filing*

**Code A**

15<sup>th</sup> June 2005

Dear Ms Snowsill

I thank you forwarding to me a copy of the letter you received from Laurence Lustgarten dated the 8<sup>th</sup> June 2005. I remain less than convinced that he is prepared to make the type of decision which would bring this complaint investigation to a conclusion. I continue to struggle to see what new material concerned in the current crime investigation could really have any useful light upon decisions which John James made three years ago which led to the complaints being made at that time against him. It must surely be a reality that any adjudication upon that officer's failings must take cognisance of the circumstances in which he made his analysis of the crime enquiry not what has occurred since that time.

I also note that he says that a final decision on this matter will be reached in the near future he then suggests that it may be the end of the month but cannot be certain that that will be achieved.

I am obviously disappointed with the IPCC investigation in this matter if we accept that the worst outcome for Chief Superintendent James would be a Written Warning which is very much at the lower end on the scale of disciplinary enquiries, then one is forced to question why it has taken three years for any conclusion in that kind of generic area to have been reached. This is against the back drop that the IPCC heralded their arrival with a determination to result complaint investigations more quickly.

As fate would have it Chief Superintendent James has decided to retire from the police service and his last working day will be at the end of August. I have deliberately not advised the IPCC of this information as it should have no impact upon their conclusions with regard to the

complaint investigation. Nonetheless on the basis of their historical speed of concluding issues I anticipate that Chief Superintendent James will have left the police service before they actually reach any decision which of course will nullify any conclusion that they may reach. I sense that the original complainants' may feel thwarted that the matter was not resolved within a sensible length of time. I am grateful for the authority's support on this matter and will of course brief members at the next complaints panel meeting.

Yours sincerely

I R Readhead  
Deputy Chief Constable



# Hampshire

POLICE AUTHORITY

*for Hampshire  
and the  
Isle of Wight*

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09 June 2005

To: Deputy Chief Constable

From: Jean Snowsill

Direct line:

**Code A**

Mr Readhead

I thought you would be interested in this response from the IPCC.

I have sent a copy to Mr Gully (new Chair of Complaints Panel) and no doubt it will be discussed at the next meeting.

With Compliments

**RECEIVED**

09 JUN 2005

POLICE AUTHORITY

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8th June 2005

Ms Jean Snowsill,  
Hampshire Police Authority  
Winchester,  
Hants.

Dear Ms Snowsill,

Thank you for your letter of 31 May. I fully understand the concerns of the Panel in this matter. I would like to reassure them that, far from slowing down our decision on the complaint against Chief Supt James, my examination of certain new material has actually accelerated the process of reaching that decision.

For purposes of clarification, it should be stated that the new material concerned the current investigation into events at the Gosport War Memorial Hospital. This shed useful light on certain issues that needed to be explored in deciding upon the merits of the complaint against CS James.

I would hope that a final decision on this matter will be reached in the near future. In fact I am aiming for a target date of the end of this month, though I cannot be certain that will be achieved. I hope this will assist in reassuring the Panel.

Yours sincerely,

**Code A****Code A****Code A**

Laurence Busigara  
Commissioner, IPC

**Code A**