

Blake Laphorn
New Kings Court
Tollgate
Chandlers Ford
Eastleigh
Hampshire SO53 3LG

Your Ref: 558203/000001/JCW/RICHARD/JDB

1 September 2010

Dear Sirs

Gladys M Richards – Inquest:

I refer to your letter dated 18 August 2010.

Whilst the Police have informed me that they are now not pursuing any further criminal investigation of Mrs Richards' death, I have still to receive a copy of the CPS's decision letter on this point.

In answer to your specific questions –

1. As Mrs Mackenzie's sister appears to have played no part in her mother's treatment in hospital prior to her death, I do not understand the reasons why I should consider including her on the Inquest witness list. Can she enlighten me on any matters upon which your client cannot? Please could you elucidate further? I am already contemplating including Mr Beade on the witness list.
2. I will consider the question of disclosure of Inquest documents when I have decided what those documents should be.
3. I am considering myself calling expert medical evidence on the role, if any, that medication administered to Mrs Richards played in her death.
4. I will have proper regard to provision of notice of the Inquest hearing date.

5. When I wrote to you on the subject of supporting your client's application for legal aid, the issue of a criminal element to Mrs Richards' death was still undetermined. Now that the Police have concluded their re-investigation it appears from the evidence before me at the moment that there is nothing to suggest that her death was unlawful. Hence, I am not convinced that there are now any exceptional circumstances relating to the forthcoming Inquest warranting your client receiving legal aid and would prefer to take a neutral stance in the matter of her obtaining such funding.

Yours faithfully

David C Horsley

Tel:

Email: