

Message

From: Parsons, Andrew [Andrew.Parsons@GRO]
Sent: 21/07/2016 13:49:09
To: Mark R Davies [mark.r.davies@GRO]; Angela Van-Den-Bogerd [angela.van-den-bogerd@GRO]
CC: Thomas P Moran [thomas.p.moran@GRO]; Rodric Williams [rodric.williams@GRO]; Patrick Bourke [patrick.bourke@GRO]; Rob Houghton [Rob.Houghton@GRO]; Tom Wechsler [tom.wechsler@GRO]; Nick Sambridge [nick.sambridge@GRO]; Jane MacLeod [jane.macleod@GRO]; Mark Underwood1 [mark.underwood1@GRO]
Subject: RE: Remote Access wording - subject to litigation privilege [BD-4A.FID26859284]
Attachments: FW: Future Arrangements and Part II

Quote from SS' Report:

" This ability to directly amend branch records is something that Post Office has consistently denied was possible. This recently discovered evidence appears to confirm, that in 2010 at least, it was possible for Fujitsu / Post Office to directly amend branch data without the knowledge of the relevant Subpostmaster.

14.16. In commenting on a draft of this report Post of Office told us that the references to "amend" and "correct" in the documents mentioned above, are not strictly correct as neither Post Office nor Fujitsu have the ability to directly change or delete existing records. All that can be done is that additional records can be added by Post Office / Fujitsu without the consent (and possibly the knowledge) of the relevant Subpostmaster. This will, however, have the effect of altering balances at the branch, as both debit and credit entries can be made.

14.17. Post Office also told us:

"All of the above processes for correcting / updating a branch's accounts have similar features. All of them involve inputting a new transaction into the branch's records (not editing or removing any previous transactions) and all are shown transparently in the branch transaction records available to Subpostmasters (as well as in the master ARQ data).

The language used in the documents produced by Post Office / Fujitsu and to which you refer is unfortunate colloquial shorthand used by those working on the Horizon system. I can see how it could be read to suggest that Post Office was "altering" branch data but the above explains why this is not the case."

14.18. This is not something that we have been able to test or validate.

14.19. Clearly, the fact that such an ability exists, is not necessarily evidence that such 'amendments' were actually made. This is not something that we have been able to investigate.

This section of the Report was based on the attached email sent to Second Sight.

Kind regards
Andy

Andrew Parsons
Partner

Bond Dickinson

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From: Mark R Davies [mailto:mark.r.davies@] **GRO**

Sent: 21 July 2016 14:36

To: Angela Van-Den-Bogerd

Cc: Parsons, Andrew; Thomas P Moran; Rodric Williams; Patrick Bourke; Rob Houghton; Tom Wechsler; Nick Sambridge; Jane MacLeod; Mark Underwood1

Subject: Re: Remote Access wording - subject to litigation privilege [BD-4A.FID26859284]

Exactly - it's hard to assess this without seeing what we've previously said

Mark Davies

Communications and Corporate Affairs Director

GRO

On 21 Jul 2016, at 14:33, Angela Van-Den-Bogerd [mailto:] **GRO** wrote:

Thanks Andy

Would you please circulate the extract "The use of balancing transactions was explained to Second Sight and is referenced in its Part Two Report at paragraph 14.16." so that we can see what was referenced at the time.

Thanks
Angela



Angela Van Den Bogerd
Director of Support Services

1st Floor, Ty Brwydran,
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GRO

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From: Parsons, Andrew [mailto:andrew.parsons@] **GRO**

Sent: 21 July 2016 14:05

To: Thomas P Moran; Rodric Williams; Angela Van-Den-Bogerd; Patrick Bourke; Mark R Davies; Rob Houghton; Tom Wechsler; Nick Sambridge; Jane MacLeod; Mark Underwood1

Subject: Remote Access wording - subject to litigation privilege [BD-4A.FID26859284]

All

Please find attached the proposed wording on the remote access issue – for discussion on our call at 6pm today.

Three points to bear in mind when reviewing:

1. In light of comments yesterday, we've provided a slightly longer explanation so to hopefully present this issue in a better light.
2. Tony agrees with the current wording but has reiterated the importance of dealing with this point candidly, even if that does cause some short-term pain.
3. We do not yet have a 100% clear picture on some of the technical and operation issues on this topic. We therefore need to be careful not to overstate our case. This draft wording will also need to be run past Deloitte / FJ.

Kind regards
Andy

Andrew Parsons
Partner

Bond Dickinson

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