Witness Statement

(CJ Act 1967, s9; MC Act 1980, ss 5A(3)(a) and 5B, MC Rules 1981, r 70)



Statement of Rosemary Sporle

Age if under 18 over 18 (If over 18 insert 'over 18')

This statement (consisting of two pages each signed by me) is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false or do not believe true.

Dated the 31st day of March 2003

Signature Rosemary Sporle

I am employed by Post Office Ltd as a Contracts Manager. I have worked for Post Office Ltd for 20 years, of which the last eighteen months has been as Contracts Manager. My responsibilities include the consistent deployment of all agency policies and procedures relating to the contract for services of Subpostmasters, within a defined geographical area. Furthermore, I advise Retail Line Managers and other appropriate sections and business units, of the various conditions of the Subpostmasters contract.

Subpostmasters are not employees of Post Office Ltd, but operate under a contract to provide services on behalf of Post Office Ltd. Subpostmasters usually locate the actual Post Office in premises in which they also run a private business. Under the terms of the contract, Subpostmasters have sole responsibility for all stock and cash, and for all daily and weekly accounting and administration in respect of the Post Office.

From records held I can state that Mr David Yates was the Subpostmaster at Walton on Thames Post Office, from 13th September 1993 to 7th March 2003, when his contract for services was suspended.

Signature Rosemary Sporle

Signature witnessed by

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Witness Statement

(CJ Act 1967, s9; MC Act 1980, ss 5A(3)(a) and 5B, MC Rules 1981, r 70)

Continuation of statement of Rosemary Sporle

I now produce a copy of section 9(M) of the Modified Subpostmasters contract, detailing the responsibility a Subpostmaster has for Post Office cash and stock, as item RS/1.

I also produce a schedule detailing the remuneration paid to Mr Yates during his period as Subpostmaster between March 2002 and March 2003, as item RS/2.

The records to which I refer in this statement form part of the records relating to the business of Post Office Ltd and were compiled during the ordinary course of business, from information supplied by persons who have, or may reasonably be supposed to have, personal knowledge of the matter dealt with in the information supplied, but are unlikely to have any recollection of the information.

CS011A