

11th January 2010

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Dear Sir

REGINA v SEEMA MISRA
GUILDFORD CROWN COURT
TRIAL – 15TH MARCH 2010

I have now reviewed the papers in the above case particularly your request for disclosure and comment as follows.

We will respond to all reasonable requests and seek material that may undermine the prosecution case and support your Client's Defence. We understand in general terms that you are seeking to challenge the integrity of the Horizon system. We feel obliged to point out, however, that you have not as yet served a Defence Statement which raises any issue whatsoever with the Horizon system. If any apparent errors were occurring in the Indictment period your Client should have a good knowledge of what they might be, simply because she would have regularly been checking the stock against the Horizon records. We take the view that a detailed Defence Statement is required in this case which fully particularises any problems with the Horizon upon which your Client would seek to rely at trial. The Defence Statement should obviously make clear what the issues in the case are. At the moment we do not know whether your Client still claims that she was hiding thefts by members of staff and to what extent those alleged thefts contributed to the deficiency at the Office. We are handicapped in fulfilling our disclosure obligations by the absence of an adequate Defence Statement. The credibility of your Client may also be damaged at trial if no adequate Defence Statement is served.

Yours faithfully

Jarnail Singh
Senior Lawyer
Criminal Law Division