

From: Mark R Davies; [GRO]
Sent: Fri 12/12/2014 6:42:34 PM (UTC)
To: Belinda Crowe; [GRO]
Cc: Susan.BARTY; [GRO]; Rodric Williams; [GRO]; Patrick Bourke; [GRO]; Melanie Corfield; [GRO]; Ruth X Barker; [GRO]; Angela Van-Den-Bogerd; [GRO]; [GRO]; Belinda Crowe; [GRO]
Subject: Re: BBC - One Show [CMCK-UK.FID8673510]
Attachment: image001.jpg

Can I suggest that we hold off on legal letter till we hear back to my email? Starting to build line of comms above nick wallis and it could irritate

Mark Davies
Communications and Corporate Affairs Director
Mobile: [GRO]

Sent from my iPhone

On 12 Dec 2014, at 18:40, "Belinda Crowe" <[GRO]> wrote:

Thanks Susan. My only comment is that I prefer not to indicate specifically that we are actually mediating at the beginning of next week. I would not want the applicant concerned to in any way be exposed or feel exposed should anything we say become public. My concern is even if no-one else knows who she is, she might pick this up if the one show were to say that there is a case being mediated on Tuesday. It is a particularly sensitive case.

Best wishes
Belinda

[GRO]

From: BARTY, Susan [GRO]
Sent: Friday, December 12, 2014 06:30 PM
To: Rodric Williams; Patrick Bourke; Melanie Corfield; Ruth X Barker; Angela Van-Den-Bogerd; Belinda Crowe; Mark R Davies
Subject: BBC - One Show [CMCK-UK.FID8673510]

Dear all

I attach a draft letter to the BBC and set it out below, for ease of reference.

Best wishes

Susan

Susan Barty
Partner

T
M
F
E

GRO

<image001.jpg>

www.cms-cmck.com
www.law-now.com

Dear Sirs

Post Office Limited - The One Show

As you will recall, we act for Post Office Limited.

We understand that our client has been contacted by you in relation to a further piece you are proposing to broadcast next week, again on the One Show. Our client was first informed by email shortly before midday that the story was to run "at around the same time next week". Our client was also asked for a substantive response to the extensive issues raised by noon on Monday 15 December 2014. From this our client understood the broadcast was to run not before Tuesday next week. However, our client now understands that it is likely to be broadcast on Monday.

In any event, the email raises a number of new and serious allegations, and refers to further contributors including Geoffrey Sturgess and Sandip Patel QC. We consider that you must have known that you were proposing to run a further story on these issues and, in the circumstances, should have given our client proper notice before any intended broadcast. Not only is this the busiest time of the year for our client, but our client is still in the process of conducting mediations under its Complaint Review and Mediation Scheme, one of which is being conducted at the beginning of next week. You have asked for a spokesperson to appear on the programme. The most appropriate spokesperson is engaged in the mediation process at the start of next week, so would not be able to contribute before Wednesday next week.

There is no urgency in reporting on this matter such that the broadcast needs to take place on Monday or, indeed, Tuesday next week. To go ahead with the broadcast without our client having a proper opportunity to respond, in the light of the serious allegations raised in the email sent to our client, would run a serious risk of significant inaccuracies and damaging statements, which would be likely to misrepresent the facts and cause serious harm to our client.

We would also remind you that any reference to the Horizon system needs to be seen in the context of the approximately 6 million different transactions conducted through the system every day and the tens of thousands of people in the different subpostoffices who carry on their business using the system with no difficulty. As we have made clear, a tiny percentage of Post Offices have reported problems and there is no evidence of any negative impact on consumers.

All of our client's rights remain reserved.

Yours faithfully

CMS Cameron McKenna LLP

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