

Marilyn Benjamin  
05/02/2010 16:14

To: Jarnail A Singh/e/POSTOFFICE@POSTOFFICE  
cc:  
Subject: Fw: REGINA v SEEMA MISRA GUILDFORD CROWN COURT  
TRIAL - 15TH MARCH 2010

----- Forwarded by Marilyn Benjamin/e/POSTOFFICE on 05/02/2010 16:14 -----



Issy Hogg

**GRO**

05/02/2010 16:06

To: "marilyn.benjamin

<marilyn.benjamin

cc: Keith Hadrill <keith

**GRO**

**GRO**

**GRO**

, Charles McLachlan

Subject: RE: REGINA v SEEMA MISRA GUILDFORD CROWN COURT  
TRIAL - 15TH MARCH 2010

Dear Mr Singh

Re: Misra

I thank you for your email. I have not had the chance to consider it in detail. I do, however, note that the answers supplied relate to my request dated the 30th November and to Professor McLachlan's 2nd interim report. You were in court on Monday when your Counsel requested that we provide our final request, subject to any further questions arising out of material still to be disclosed, and the Judge ordered such request to be served by Wednesday. We duly served that request on Wednesday with Professor McLachlan's 3rd interim report. You have failed completely to refer to either in your email.

We do not therefore accept your contention that you have fully complied with our disclosure requests.

---

Issy Hogg

Coomber Rich Solicitors  
Yard House, Basingstoke, RG21 7NX  
SRA 308901

Tel.

**GRO**

Mobile

Email.

**GRO**

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-----Original Message-----

From: marilyn.benjamin  
[mailto:marilyn.benjamin]

**GRO**

Sent: 05 February 2010 15:05

To: Issy Hogg

Subject: REGINA v SEEMA MISRA GUILDFORD CROWN COURT TRIAL - 15TH MARCH 2010

Dear Ms Hogg,

I refer you to my letter of the 27th January 2010 and my colleague Phil Taylor's three E-Mails of the 29th January 2010, copy attached for your information. I also refer to your E-Mail of the 3rd February 2010.

First E-Mail

In reply to your latest Defence Statement request for disclosure my Officer has now forwarded me the following Instructions.

(i) Alan Stuart led the audit in October 2005 and his report is attached. He also stated that other than completion of the cash, stock and compliance questionnaire, no other notes would have been made at the time. At that time paperwork was retained for one month only unless there was a special reason for retention beyond that time.

(ii) No notes were taken by the Auditors as above.

(iii) Mr Junaid Tanveer can be contacted on either  or

(iv) My Investigating Officer has E-Mailed Tamiko Springer and her reply was as follows: "I have checked my records. I don't have any notes on file for West Byfleet. I ceased to be responsible for West Byfleet after March 2006".

I understand that you have already received the details requested in (v) and (vi).

(See attached file: 126023.zip)

Second E-Mail

Continued from last E-Mail.

5b) What enquiries were made, bearing in mind the request came from a trainer, as to the cause of this loss.

Michael's reply - I am sorry I can't remember the training for the office, the PSA and the learning actions will be on file for the office. I didn't raise any issue as to loss of stock or cash during my time at the office.

I have examined the file and the documents contained within it relate to Mrs Misras application to be subpostmistress, her business plan, the transfer of the PO, the official secret act, her agreement to repay a £3,400 loss at the PO in instalments, contract with outgoing subpostmaster e.t.c. There are no further training documents that have not already been served. The file is too bulky to photocopy.

Third E-Mail

Please see the attached second statement from Andrew Dunks.

(See attached file: A Dunks 2nd Statement.doc)

Referring to the Defence Case Statement on the 21st January 2010, I now enclose by E-Mail the NBSC calls made by West Byfleet.

(See attached file: West Byfleet - 126023.xls)

Paragraph 15 - Eleanor Nixon's statement - I attach below the only documentation that can be located which appear to be linked to Mrs Nixon.

Warwick

>  
> I have made enquiries of our Chairman's Office team which deals with high  
> profile correspondence and they know nothing of Mrs Nixon or Dixon of  
> Highcliffe.  
>  
> The contract managers for the relevant branch can recall nothing  
according  
> to Nigel the current manager.  
>  
> The only material which can be located and which is attached was  
generated  
> by the person who was presumably her husband.  
>  
> Regards  
>  
> Mandy Talbot  
> Dispute Resolution  
> Company Secretary's Office  
> Royal Mail Legal Services

Lin

>  
> Jon Longman, Investigation Manager, spoke to me about the statement made  
by  
> Mrs Nixon on 7 Jan as this was being used by someone who was being  
> prosecuted in connection with an issue at West Byfleet branch.  
> I had no recollection of any Horizon problems at Highcliffe and the only  
> info I could find is what Craig has already sent from the EFC.  
> Anyway I don't see that her statement proves there is anything wrong with  
> Horizon as she has admitted that the wrong keys were pressed!  
>  
> Sorry I can't be of any further help.  
>  
>  
>  
> Regards  
>  
>  
> \_\_\_\_\_  
>  
> Nigel Allen  
>  
> Contracts Advisor - South West England  
>  
> Post Office Ltd - Network Support  
>  
>  
>  
> Lin Norbury  
> To: Craig Thompson/e/POSTOFFICE@POSTOFFICE  
> 19/01/2010 11:31 cc: Mandy Talbot/e/POSTOFFICE@POSTOFFICE, Nigel  
Allen/e/POSTOFFICE@POSTOFFICE,  
> Michele Graves/e/POSTOFFICE@POSTOFFICE  
> Subject: Re: Fw: Eleanor Grace Muriel Nixon former postmistress of  
Highcliffe in Dorset  
> (Document link: Nigel Allen)  
>  
>  
>

>  
> Craig  
> Thanks - yes, now I've checked back, the statement clearly states Nixon  
but  
> I went by the e-mail title (which I have now corrected) which stated  
Dixon!  
>  
> Michele  
> Does this change anything from your perspective - do you search cases by  
> name?  
>  
> Lin  
>  
> National Contract Manager  
> Network Support  
> Post Office Ltd  
>  
>  
>  
> Craig Thompson  
> To: Lin Norbury/e/POSTOFFICE@POSTOFFICE  
> 19/01/2010 11:13 cc: Mandy Talbot/e/POSTOFFICE@POSTOFFICE, Nigel  
Allen/e/POSTOFFICE@POSTOFFICE  
> Subject: Re: Fw: Eleanor Grace Muriel Dixon former postmistress of  
Highcliffe in Dorset  
> (Document link: Lin Norbury)  
>  
>  
>  
>  
> Hi Lin,  
>  
> There appears to be an error with the spelling/pronunciation of the  
> surname being referred to, and is in fact NIXON not DIXON.  
>  
> Having done an online search at Iron Mountain, (for both Nixon and  
Dixon),  
> I can confirm that we have no records being held at Iron Mountain for  
> either Mr Maurice or Mrs Eleanor Nixon/Dixon.  
>  
> There isn't a great deal within the branch file here in Leeds for Mr  
Nixon,  
> (which should have gone away to IM for archiving when he left), other  
than  
> a few recruitment papers when he first started. I can find nothing in the  
> name of Mrs Eleanor Nixon's name.  
>  
> There are though, these papers regarding debt/loss and don't know if they  
> help you or not?  
>  
>  
> (See attached file: Highcliffe 195508.pdf)  
>  
> Craig  
>  
> Craig Thompson  
> Network Support Admin Team Leader  
> Post Office Ltd  
>  
>  
>  
> Lin Norbury  
> To: Craig Thompson/e/POSTOFFICE@POSTOFFICE  
> 18/01/2010 19:55 cc: Mandy Talbot/e/POSTOFFICE@POSTOFFICE, Nigel  
Allen/e/POSTOFFICE@POSTOFFICE  
> Subject: Fw: Eleanor Grace Muriel Dixon former postmistress of Highcliffe

in Dorset  
>  
>  
>  
>  
> Hi Craig  
> Reference above / below.  
>  
> Can you arrange to see what if anything we have in the basement in  
respect  
> of Mrs Dixon and Highcliffe and if there is a file at Iron Mountain,  
> arrange for it's retrieval.  
>  
> Thanks  
> Lin  
>  
> National Contract Manager  
> Network Support  
> Post Office Ltd  
>  
> ----- Forwarded by Lin Norbury/e/POSTOFFICE on 18/01/2010 19:50 -----  
>  
> Mandy Talbot  
> To: Lin Norbury/e/POSTOFFICE@POSTOFFICE  
> 18/01/2010 09:57 cc:  
> Subject: Fw: Eleanor Grace Muriel Dixon former postmistress of Highcliffe  
in Dorset  
>  
>  
>  
>  
> Lin  
>  
> You are probably aware that there is a challenge to the Horizon system  
> again from the prosecution side of the business. The defence in a case  
> which our criminal team is prosecuting are facing a challenge that  
Horizon  
> is not fit for purpose. They have come up with a list of the usual  
suspects  
> in terms of ex postmasters who all have the opinion that Horizon is not  
fit  
> for purpose etc. One has supplied a statement and she is a person I have  
> not heard of before. I have checked with the Chairman's Office and they  
> have not heard of her. Please can you ask the relevant contract managers  
> to supply me with copies of any documents, correspondence which they have  
> in which she disputes the validity of the system. According to the  
> statement attached she ran at least two different branches Highcliffe in  
> Dorset.  
>  
>  
>  
>  
> Mandy Talbot  
> Dispute Resolution  
> Company Secretary's Office  
> Royal Mail Legal Services  
>  
> ----- Forwarded by Mandy Talbot/e/POSTOFFICE on 18/01/2010 09:47 -----  
>  
> Michele Graves  
> To: Mandy Talbot/e/POSTOFFICE@POSTOFFICE  
> 08/01/2010 11:03 cc:  
> Subject: Fw: Eleanor Grace Muriel Dixon former postmistress of Highcliffe  
in Dorset  
>  
>

>  
>  
> Hi Mandy  
>  
> See below - I have nothing in my team on file re this case.  
>  
> Rgds  
>  
>  
>  
> Michele Graves (Embedded  
> Executive Correspondence Manager image moved  
> Executive Correspondence Team to file:  
> Post Office Limited pic32123.gif)  
>  
>  
>  
>  
> ----- Forwarded by Michele Graves/e/POSTOFFICE on 08/01/2010 11:03 -----  
>  
> Simon V Smith  
> To: Tahira Rasool/e/POSTOFFICE@POSTOFFICE, Michele  
Graves/e/POSTOFFICE@POSTOFFICE  
> 08/01/2010 10:05 cc:  
> Subject: Re: Fw: Eleanor Grace Muriel Dixon former postmistress of  
Highcliffe in Dorset  
> (Document link: Michele Graves)  
>  
>  
>  
>  
> Michele, Tahira  
>  
> With the help of both Andy & Ivan we have gone through all the non  
recorded  
> correspondence in both rooms & we didn't find any correspondence relating  
> to either Eleanor Dixon former postmistress or Highcliffe Post Office in  
> Dorset. I have also checked the EFC & the logs for this year & last year  
> and again found no entries.  
>  
> Rgds, Simon  
>  
>  
>  
> Simon Smith (Embedded  
> Executive Correspondence Team image moved  
> Team Network Directorate to file:  
>  
>  
(See attached file: Highcliffe 195508.pdf)

We had information to this effect see Eleanor Kimberley's E-Mail dated 3rd  
February 2010 that there was a problem with Steamline which existed in  
August 2005.

| To: John Longman/e/POSTOFFICE@POSTOFFICE |  
> | cc: |  
> | Subject: highcliffe 195508 |  
>

-----  
-----

>

>  
>  
> John  
>  
> ref phone call for information on Highcliffe 195508.  
>  
> I have found Maureen Lyme, and have spoken to her regarding this office,  
> although she cannot remember specific offices, she has stated that pre  
> August 2005 offices were using a separate system for debit/credit card  
> transactions called streamline. Offices would put credit/debit cards  
> through this system and produce a receipt, which could be keyed into the  
> Horizon terminals.  
>  
> Some Post master/ clerks would key the information into horizon as cash,  
> instead of debit/credit cards resulting in a shortage in offices. If  
> postoffices contacted Chesterfield at the time any branch discrepancies  
> were dealt with, and sorted out with the individual post offices.  
>  
> Therefore the problems were results of incorrect accounting procedure and  
> not a problem with the horizon system.  
>  
> No information is available for any correction notices pre August 2005.  
>  
> Hope this helps  
>  
>  
> Eleanor  
> Fraud & Conformance Team  
> Post Office Ltd  
> Finance  
>

Paragraph 18B - There is a preliminary report in the case of Hosi however this does not pass the disclosure test in that it does not undermine the prosecution case or support your Client's Defence.

We refer to your E-Mail of the 3rd February 2010. We feel apologised to point out that 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 been readily checking the stock against the Horizon records. Your Expert needs to consider possibly a material over a 4 week period which we are happy to provide for this relevant period obviously this would be less expensive and reduce costs. We cannot see why you need to see all the data as it would be satisfactory to see data for a 4 week period where your Client Seema Misra was falsifying the accounts therefore any problems would be apparent in these weeks. We hope that your Expert will speak to Mr Jenkins and together they would find common ground. We therefore conclude that your Expert would need no longer than formally consider this over a period of a couple of weeks.

I enclose statement of John Longman and Andy Bayfield. I hope to be in a position to serve upon you the statement of Gareth Jenkins shortly.

(See attached file: Witness statement Jon Longman.no 2.doc) (See attached file: Witness statement Andy Bayfield AB checked.doc)

The prosecution now considers that your disclosure requests have now been dealt with.

Kindly acknowledge receipt.

Jarnail A Singh  
Senior Lawyer  
Criminal Law Team

Tel.No:  
Fax.No:

GRO

(Embedded image moved to file: pic23113.jpg)

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0HQ

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