

Private and Confidential

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Date: 8th October 2013
Our Ref: MS2/22796

Martin.smith GRO

Tel: GRO
Fax:

Dear Sirs,

Re: Lynette Hutchings

We write to your firm as being the solicitors on the file representing this defendant in the proceedings which resulted in her being sentenced to a Community Order of 12 months with a requirement that she complete a total of 120 hours of unpaid work for an offence of false accounting.

On the 8th July 2013 a report into the operations of the Horizon system was published by an independent organisation which had been commissioned by our clients, Post Office Ltd. The report is known as the Second Sight Interim report. We have also received and considered a second report, concerning an investigation into an incident at another post office, the Helen Rose Report.

We have thoroughly reviewed both the prosecution case and that of your client and in particular her Defence Statement and Addendum Defence Statement, in the light of material contained within the Second Sight Interim report and the Helen Rose report. We have also reconsidered our disclosure duties under the CPIA 1996 and the Code of Practice enacted thereunder, and the A-G's Guidelines on Disclosure. We are also alive to our duties under the common law relating to cases which have been concluded.

We have formed the firm view that, had the prosecution been possessed of the material contained within the two reports during the currency of the prosecution of your client, we should and would have disclosed that material to you in compliance with our disclosure duties.

The prosecution recognises its obligation post conviction to disclose any information which may affect the safety of a conviction. Accordingly we now disclose those reports to you so that you are able to consider whether your client may have grounds for an appeal against her conviction.

We would also remind you of your duty not to disclose this material to any third party other than your client; in particular the Helen Rose report is not in the public domain.

Yours faithfully,

Simon Clarke

Barrister

Direct Dial: