



REGINA

V

JANET LOUISE SKINNER

ADVOCATES NOTE

1. The confiscation hearing in the case of Janet Louise Skinner was listed at Hull Crown Court before Recorder Michael Smith on the 25th May 2007.
2. Defence Counsel, Mr Christopher Dunn, made an application to adjourn the hearing, claiming that there had been an abuse of process in proceeding with this confiscation application by the Prosecution.
3. The abuse is on the grounds of manipulation of process and malefides.
4. The thrust of the defence argument is that Miss Skinner did not benefit from her offending.
5. Submission of Skeleton Arguments to deal with the abuse of process claim are set down as follows:-
 - (i) Defence Skeleton Argument to be served by 4.30pm on the 22nd June 2007.
 - (ii) Prosecution Response by the 13th July 2007.

6. The matter was adjourned for the following reasons:-

- (i) Defence have raised a possible abuse of process argument; and
- (ii) Inadequate Court time.

7. The hearing date has now been set for the 29th August 2007. The time estimate has now been revised to one full day.
8. Please ensure that the financial investigator Michael Francis Matthews is warned to attend Court on that date (his availability was sought prior to setting down the hearing date with the listing officer).
9. I note in the Prosecutor's response dated the 15th May 2007 that reference is made to a similar case which was heard at Mold Crown Court on the 19th April 2007 by Recorder Parry. I would be most interested to establish the details of that case and whether the issue of benefit in relation to the Defendant was raised.
10. Should you require any further advice upon this case please do not hesitate to contact me.

PATRIZIA DOHERTY

4th June 2007

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4th June 2007

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