

From: Mark Raymond[GRO]
Sent: Tue 25/04/2017 4:07:22 PM (UTC)
To: Rodric Williams[GRO]; Jane MacLeod[GRO]
Subject: Drumantee Post Office

Hi Jane /Rodric,

Patricia Fegan, PM from the Drumantee Post Office, NI, was sentenced at Newry Crown Court, NI, In relation to charges of False Accounting and Fraud by Misrepresentation.

Mrs. Fegan pleaded guilty to the offences after the theft offence was dropped through insufficient evidence, having claimed the discrepancy was due to Horizon.

Prior to sentence the case was put out for the defence to supply documentation to support her claim that fault may lay with the integrity of Horizon. The Court were later presented with a large amount of documentation relating to the media coverage on the Horizon issues. The prosecution relied on an email namely " that Post Office Ltd are absolutely confident in the integrity of the Horizon system and if any person has any specific issues or complaints about the system then that/those matters should be raised so that they can be addressed in an appropriate manner."

Mrs Fegan was sentenced to 9 months imprisonment suspended for 2 years. At present there appears no interest in the case with the media in NI.

Our Security Manager in NI, Simon Hutchinson, has now been summoned to attend Court as a POL witness for the PPS, in the Strangford case on 7th June. In light of the Drumantee case, it is highly likely he will be asked by the defence to make comment on the integrity of Horizon. Could I please ask that consideration be given as to how Simon should be advised as to a business legal response, if asked questions about Horizon during the proceedings.

Thank you,

Kind regards

Mark



Mark Raymond

Head of Security Operations

Post Office Limited
Finsbury Dials
20 Finsbury Street
London
EC2Y 9AQ

GRO

GRO

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OFFICIAL please use:

GRO

From: Helen Dickinson
Sent: Tuesday, April 25, 2017 3:08 PM
To: Simon I Hutchinson
Cc: Mark Raymond
Subject: RE: Drumantee Post Office - Police Response
Importance: High
Sensitivity: Confidential

Hi Simon,

Sorry Simon, I missed this one.

Yes please and can you please send the green jacket into Chesterfield where it can be archived off. A lenient sentence but still an excellent result.

Mark, can you please note the comments made by the OIC and pass them on to Rodric and Jane as the press in NI are usually very vocal on such matters.

Kind regards



Helen Dickinson
Security Operation Team Leader North
Accredited Financial Investigator

Room GF4, Future Walk
West Bars, Chesterfield, S49 1PF

Mobile:

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use:

From: Simon I Hutchinson
Sent: 07 April 2017 11:37
To: Helen Dickinson
Subject: Drumantee Post Office - Police Response

Helen

Please see below e mail from Mandy Campbell, Drumantee Police IO, re conviction and associated Horizon issue! I take it I should close now?

Regards

Simon



Simon I Hutchinson
Security Manager

Brent House

15 Heron Road
Belfast BT3 9LE

GRO

GRO

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From: mandy.campbell@postoffice.co.uk **GRO** [mailto:**GRO**]

Sent: 06 April 2017 15:48

To: Simon I Hutchinson <**GRO**>

Subject: OFFICIAL [PUBLIC]: RE: Drumantee Post Office

This e-mail has been marked OFFICIAL [PUBLIC];

Hi Simon

I attended Newry Crown Court on Friday 31/03/17 in relation to R v Patricia Fegan, Drumintee Post Office Fraud. As previously discussed there was insufficient evidence to progress the offence of Theft, however Mrs Fegan submitted a 'Guilty' plea in relation to False Accounting and Fraud by False Representation. She always claimed that the discrepancy of approximately £6000 was down to a fault in the 'Horizon System'.

The case was listed on 21/03/17 for sentencing but was adjourned as the Judge asked the Defendant to supply documentation to back-up her claim about the Horizon system and for the Prosecution to supply documentation in relation to its integrity. On Friday 31/03/17 the Defence team presented the court with an impressive amount of documentation relating to the media cover about the problems Post Office's across the UK have experienced with the system and their unexplained discrepancies etc. Unfortunately we were only able to present one sheet of paper (your email) which was read out in court. The lack of an official response from Post Office Ltd in relation to this issue did not go unnoticed.

However, consequently the Defendant was issued with a lenient sentence of 9 months imprisonment suspended for 2 years.

Kind Regards

Mandy Campbell

Detective Constable

PW1925

Ardmore CID

Tel Ext: **GRO**

From: mandy.campbell@postoffice.co.uk **GRO** [mailto:**GRO**]

Sent: 21 March 2017 13:44

To: Simon I Hutchinson <**GRO**>

Subject: OFFICIAL [PUBLIC]: RE: Drumantee Post Office

This e-mail has been marked OFFICIAL [PUBLIC];

Thanks Simon

Mandy

From: Simon I Hutchinson [mailto:]

GRO

Sent: 21 March 2017 12:31

To: CAMPBELL Mandy

Subject: Drumantee Post Office

Mandy

Regarding our recent discussion and in terms of the integrity of the Post Office Horizon system, I can again confirm that Post Office Ltd are absolutely confident in the integrity of the Horizon system and if any person has any specific issues or complaints about the system then that/those matters should be raised so that they can be addressed in an appropriate manor.

Regards

Simon



Simon I Hutchinson
Security Manager

Brent House
15 Heron Road
Belfast BT3 9LE

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