POL00054927



Charlotte Knight
<c[redacted]
s.c[redacted]

30/06/2010 16:19

To: Rob G Wilson/e[redacted] GRO
cc: Amy Cheunviratsakul <[redacted]
Subject: Case of Susan Rudkin

Your Ref: CRM/260283/JSX/RGW

Dear Mr Wilson

Re: R v Susan Rudkin – Outstanding Confiscation Order

I write with reference to the above. A letter has recently been received by Susan Rudkin from a Sarah Warrington at the Regional Confiscation Unit, Victoria Law Courts, Corporation Street, Birmingham making reference to an outstanding amount of **£35,894.15**.

You will recall that at the final confiscation hearing the Court decided that the benefit figure was £43,894.15 this being the value of the index offence.

As a result of the repayments to the Post Office by way of a £1,000 per month deduction at source from the salary of Michael Rudkin, with £8,000 having been paid by the end of July 2009, the Prosecution agreed to the available amount being **£35,894.15**. The Prosecution wanted to ensure that the Post Office would still receive repayments and therefore the Court ordered that compensation be paid from the sums recovered under the confiscation order.

I understand from Michael Rudkin that further deductions were made in August 2009, September 2009, October 2009, November 2009, December 2009 and January 2010. These repayments should have been recouped by the Post Office via the Confiscation Unit as the balance of the Confiscation Order should be **£29,894.15**.

We received a letter from Paul Williams, Agent Contracts Manager, Post Office Ltd, Network Support Team, Royal Mail House, 3rd Floor, Clippers Quay, Salford, M50 3NW dated 3/11/09 advising that following liaison with Post Office Legal Services, under the terms of the Contract for Services held by MR Rudkin as Subpostmaster he was responsible for repaying the debt held against his branch irrespective and it was the intention of Post Office Ltd to continue to deduct the £1,000 per month as per the previous agreement until full settlement had been received.

As I understand it, the position is that any monies recouped should have been notified to the Confiscation Unit as the monies paid in respect of a Confiscation Order are paid to them on behalf of the Crown and then compensation paid out to the intended party. In this case monies have been recouped directly by the Post Office. I have provided the contact details for the Confiscation Unit above. I have advised the Confiscation Unit previously of the position. In April 2010 I spoke to a Graham Christie at the same Confiscation Unit.

Can you please confirm in writing the total amount repaid towards the above debt and can you please liaise with the Confiscation Unit and provide proof to them in order that the correct outstanding balance can be recorded on their system.

On another note, I understand that Post Office Ltd are about to roll out the new Horizon on line accounting system in the Post Offices and as a result sales and transfers of Post Office businesses are not currently allowed. Can you make enquires and confirm the position as soon as possible.

Many thanks for your assistance.

I look forward to hearing from you as a matter of urgency.

Kind regards

Charlotte Knight
Solicitor

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