

Message

From: Stephen Dilley [GRO]
on behalf of Stephen Dilley [GRO]
Sent: 23/01/2007 11:03:07
To: Pinder Brian [GRO]; Sewell Peter \((FEL01)\) [IMCEAEX-O=EXCHANGE_OU=ADMINGROUP1_CN=RECIPIENTS_CN=[GRO] Dunks Andy [GRO] Chambers Anne O [GRO] Cath Oglesby [GRO] Helen Rose [GRO] John H Jones [GRO] Andrew Wise [GRO] Gillian Hoyland [GRO] Michael D Johnson [GRO] Davlyn Cumberland [GRO] Liz Morgan [GRO] ruth.simpson [GRO] Paul.Williamson [GRO] Wendy N Smith [GRO] Mandy Talbot [GRO] Graham C Ward [GRO] Martyn Mitchell [GRO]
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Subject: Judgment: Post Office -v- Lee Castleton
Attachments: eCopy scanned document.pdf

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am very pleased to confirm that the P.O has obtained judgment in the full amount of its claim against Mr Castleton i.e. £25,858.95. (A copy of the judgment is attached for information). The key points arising from the judgment are as follows:

1. The Court decided that the burden of proof lies on the sub-postmaster to show that the account was wrong, because he produced the Cash accounts upon which the claim was based.
2. The Judge considered in detail all the assertions Mr Castleton made about Horizon. He found no flaw with the system.
3. The Judge found that the Post Office's witnesses were reliable.
4. The Judge stated that he was satisfied that the substantial unexplained deficiencies which occurred in weeks 42 to 51 and in week 52 and to the close of business on 22 March 2004 "are real deficiencies and as such are irrefutable evidence that Marine Drive was not properly managed at the material time... the losses must have been caused by his own error or that of his assistants."
5. The Judge dismissed Mr Castleton's counter claim.
6. Mr Castleton has been ordered to pay the P.O's costs (to be assessed mostly on the indemnity basis, if not agreed).

Many thanks to all the witnesses (both those who had to attend the trial and those who didn't) and to everyone else who has assisted by providing information for this case.

Kind regards.

Stephen Dilley
 Solicitor
 for and on behalf of Bond Pearce LLP

GRO

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