

Message

From: Tim Parker [GRO]
on behalf of Tim Parker [GRO]
Sent: 08/03/2019 16:43:42
To: Cooper, Tom - UKGI [GRO]; Jane MacLeod [GRO]
CC: Ken McCall1 [GRO]; Carla Stent1 [GRO]; Tim.Franklin1 [GRO];
[GRO]; Shirine Khoury-Hag [GRO]; Paula Vennells [GRO];
[GRO]; Alisdair Cameron [GRO]; Veronica Branton [GRO]
Subject: Re: Postmaster Litigation - CONFIDENTIAL AND SUBJECT TO LEGAL PRIVILEGE - DO NOT FORWARD

Very disappointing: we now need to look at the detail.

Tim Parker

Chairman
National Trust
20 Grosvenor Gardens, London, SW1W 0DH
[GRO]

Chairman
Post Office Limited
Finsbury Dials, 20 Finsbury Street, London, EC2Y 9AQ
[GRO]

Chairman
Samsonite International SA
Westerring 17, B-9700 Oudenaarde, Belgium
[GRO]

From: Cooper, Tom - UKGI [GRO]
Sent: Friday, March 8, 2019 4:28 pm
To: Jane MacLeod
Cc: Tim Parker; Ken McCall1; Carla Stent1; Tim.Franklin1; Shirine Khoury-Hag; Paula Vennells; Alisdair Cameron; Veronica Branton
Subject: Re: Postmaster Litigation - CONFIDENTIAL AND SUBJECT TO LEGAL PRIVILEGE - DO NOT FORWARD

Jane

That's obviously disappointing. Good that there are contingency plans in place.

I'd like to read the judgement itself please.

Tom

Sent from my iPhone

On 8 Mar 2019, at 15:26, Jane MacLeod [GRO] wrote:

All

We received the judgment this morning in the Common Issues Trial. The judgment is 325 pages and very detailed, and as a result we have not yet read it completely or fully understood all the arguments. However a high level review indicates:

- We have lost on all material points
- The judge has criticised Post Office comprehensively – both as to our historic operations and behaviours and our conduct of the case
- The judge accepts the evidence of the Lead Claimants but is sceptical of our witnesses who he characterises as ‘extraordinarily partisan’
- He has struck out the key contractual provisions which require postmasters to account to Post Office, and
- He has stated that the Branch Trading Statement – which is the key document on which Post Office relies for postmasters to account for cash and stock in branches – cannot be relied on as a statement of account.

The judgment will be handed down formally either next Friday (15th) or on Monday 18th. In the meantime we are working on grounds for appeal.

We have activated our contingency planning in order that we have communications and detailed plans available and ready to launch at the point the judgment is formally handed down. In the meantime, the judgment is subject to embargo and cannot be shared or discussed outside of Post Office and its legal team. We are keeping the news to a tight team within Post Office.

There are many questions that we cannot yet answer and we need some time to fully digest the verdict. We will therefore be setting up a Board call probably on Tuesday. In the meantime, please call either myself or AI as needed.

Jane

<image001.png>

Jane MacLeod

Group Director of Legal, Risk & Governance
Ground Floor
20 Finsbury Street
LONDON
EC2Y 9AQ

Mobile number: GRO

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