



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

DCU REF NO

HEADQUARTERS REF NO

DCU/Department C2, SERIOUS CRIME

Sector/Station/Branch CARE, ENNISKILLEN

Date 06 September 2005

SUBJECT APPLICATION TO TRAVEL - CHILD DEATHS

TO: DETECTIVE INSPECTOR NICHOLL, CARE

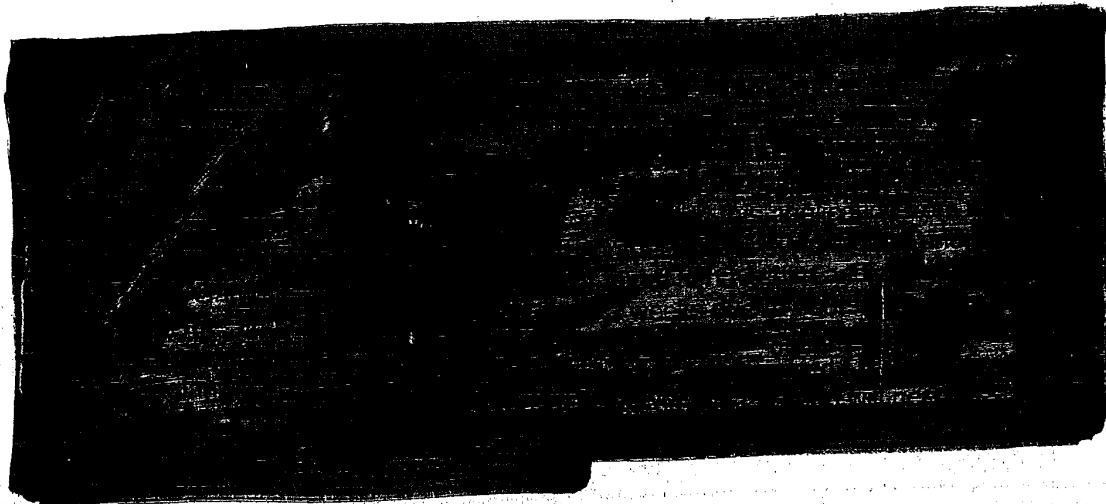
Please find attached three F67s.

1. These refer to travel to London for three officers to discuss the reports of Dr Sumner and Ms Sue Chapman. These have reported in draft form on the deaths of Adam Strain and Raychel. I have applied for three officers to travel because:
  - a. You have background knowledge of the cases and an understanding of the basic medicine involved. To speak to Dr Sumner without such knowledge will put the officer and him at a disadvantage, as he will have to start from first principles. You have also heard the views of Drs Burton and Dyer and, in relation to Adam Strain's death, these views will have to be put to Dr Sumner, as there is some variance. This would enable you to brief the SIO and Gold Command from personal knowledge and to advise on the future course of the investigations, the resource needs and timelines, which would be beneficial also in respect to the Public Inquiry.
  - b. DC PJ Monaghan has a good knowledge of the medical principles and will be able to grasp what Dr Sumner has to say. She has heard the views of Dr Dyer and understands the issues in which he is at variance with Dr Sumner. DC Monaghan was present at the discussion we had on Dr Sumner's draft reports. She has interviewed the mother of Adam Strain and the parents of Raychel Ferguson. DC Monaghan will be involved in most if not all of the succeeding interviews of doctors and nurses.
  - c. I have completed the investigation into Lucy Crawford's death, have met Dr Sumner and Ms Chapman previously, am aware of the medical principles, have met Drs Burton and Dyer and interviewed the families. I will be fully involved in most if not all of the succeeding interviews of doctors and nurses.
  - d. It is my experience that it is very beneficial for the investigators to discuss face-to-face with the experts the contents of their reports. This will impress the facts of medical procedure, medical negligence and red herrings that have been raised much more effectively than for one police officer to meet the experts and then seek to brief other police officers. If two investigators have a good grasp of the material then it would be possible to operate two interview teams, with DC Monaghan on one and me on the other, ensuring a good grasp of the background in each team. That would expedite the investigation if resources were available from MIT, for example.
2. I have applied for one overnight stay for the purposes of the meetings with the experts. This will allow us to meet Dr Sumner on the afternoon of the 14/9, and I believe that will require all

afternoon, and to see Sue Chapman on the morning of 15/9, when two hours should do. It will allow me some time to see Dr Bingham at Great Ormond Street Hospital about an interim direction in the Lucy Crawford. It also allows us some time to discuss the meeting with Dr Sumner between ourselves to ensure we have obtained all we need, with a chance to speak to him a second time if necessary. It is therefore better to see him first, then Ms Chapman.

3. Travel Branch informs me that hotels are well booked in London and they expect we will pay above the usual rate. They are unable to be specific about cost but have told me to report to the budget holder that we may pay up to £200pppn.

4.



5. The F67 prices therefore represent the worst possible costings.

I understand that the SIO is unavailable this week. It may therefore not be possible to confirm meetings with the experts until 12-13/9 and by then their availability may have altered and travel next week may be impossible and may have to be rearranged. The costings will not be affected by the dates of travel.

For direction.

WILLIAM R CROSS  
DETECTIVE SERGEANT, CARE  
Ext 54026

PS : the timing of this meeting may need to be considered in light of the email received 0800 on 7/9/05 from Dr Sumner:

I'm keeping myself free until October as I may have to go the US - my son and family lives (d) in New Orleans - they fled to Dallas to Christy's mum, but it seems their house is under deep water. I am planning to go as soon as I can be of some help - when they are allowed back.  
So just let me know the proposed date and I will try to fit in.  
All the best - Ted Sumner

I have sent a separate email re this - I heard this morning that some residents are returning to N.Orleans. If Dr Sumner goes to USA he may be away for a prolonged period and we could not proceed with the investigations unless we started again with another expert.