Ulster Television v Royal Hospitals

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From:

Jo.McGinley

Sent:

20 October 2004 16:15

To:

Dympna Curley

Cc:

Michael, McBride; Peter Crean; Bob Taylor; Donncha Hanrahan; Heather Steen

Subject:

FW: Ulster Television v Royal Hospitals

Importance: High

Sensitivity: Confidential

Please find attached the latest correspondence between the Trust and UTV. The programme is due to go out tomorrow night at 9.00pm. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require any additional information.

Jo McGinley
Media and PR manager
Corporate Communication
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The Royal Hospitals
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Belfast
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RGH/O/291/GB

JRR/IC/238

20 October 2004

Messrs Maclaine & Co Solicitors Lombard Chambers 13 Lombard Street BELFAST BT1 1RH DX 411 NR BELFAST

BY FAX & DX

Dear Sirs

ULSTER TELEVISION PLC -v- ROYAL GROUP OF HOSPITALS

We acknowledge receipt of your letter of 12 October 2004.

Unfortunately, by the time Lucy arrived at the Royal Belfast Hospital for Sick Children, there was little that could have been done to help her. The staff at the RBHSC did their very best to treat Lucy at that time and subsequently assisted the Coroner by providing detail of the events leading up to her death.

There is no question of anyone in the Royal Hospitals having mislead the Coroner as to the cause of Lucy's death. The post-mortem examination was, in fact, carried out at the request of the doctors and with the consent of Lucy's parents.

The diagnoses that our doctors made did not contradict one another. Both of the doctors concerned were evaluating Lucy from different perspectives of her illness.

We require an unqualified retraction of the allegation that you have made and an undertaking that you will not publish it in the forthcoming programme or elsewhere. We can indicate that if you do not retract the allegation, the Trust reserves its right to take legal action against you and/or your Servant or Agent. In addition, the Trust's employees who gave evidence may also seek any remedy or redress which may be available.

Yours faithfully

Gary Daly for Brangam Bagnall & Co

GD-TT-20-10-04

RGH/O/291/GB

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