



"Stephen Dilley"
GRO

16/11/2005 19:30

To: <mandy.talbot@**GRO**>
<cheryl.woodward@**GRO**>

cc:

Subject: FW: The Post Office -v- Lee Castleton

Dear Mandy and Cheryl,

I tried to contact you both today, but you were not available.

1. Mandy, please can you let me know whether the Post Office has experienced widespread problems with Horizon? Mr Castleton's solicitors are seeking disclosure of this sort of information before they agree to mediate. If it would be difficult for you to find out this information, please can you give me an idea of how and why it would be difficult (and expensive) to retrieve it? (eg perhaps there are no central records). This will give me some ammunition to go back to Mr Castleton's solicitors with to explain why the Post Office does not feel it is appropriate to disclose it and to try to persuade them to mediate sooner rather than later.

2. Cheryl, I know you say the paperwork removed from Marine Drive can't now be found, but did the Post Office keep a list of what items it removed? Do you know that the Post Office definitely removed the documents Mr Castleton seeks? Do you have the contact details for Mrs Oglesby so that I can discuss this with her? She will be an important witness.

I look forward to hearing from you as soon as possible.

Kind regards.

Stephen Dilley
Solicitor
for and on behalf of Bond Pearce LLP
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From: Stephen Dilley
Sent: 11 November 2005 14:06
To: 'mandy.talbot@**GRO**'; 'cheryl.woodward@**GRO**'
Subject: The Post Office -v- Lee Castleton

Dear Mandy and Cheryl,

Thanks, Cheryl, for your e-mail of 10 November.

I note that the Post Office is not able to find the documents which it removed from the sub post office. These documents are crucial to Mr Castleton's Defence and the Court will draw adverse inferences if we are not able to produce them. This reinforces my view that we should seek an early settlement.

I attach a letter dated 10 November 2005 from Mr Castleton's solicitors to Bond Pearce for your information, together with an article from the November 2005 edition of the Sub-Postmaster Magazine in which a sub-postmaster in Chelmsford complains of problems with the operation of the Horizon computer system. Other sub-postmasters' problems are in my

view irrelevant to the issue of whether the Horizon worked for Mr Castleton, unless there is evidence of widespread problems. Mr Castleton's specific point is that there are widespread problems with Horizon and accordingly he should not have been dismissed.

Mandy, I look forward to hearing from you in relation to my 9 November letter. If it will be helpful to discuss things over the phone, please do not hesitate to contact me on telephone number **GRO**

Kind regards.

Stephen Dilley
Solicitor

for and on behalf of Bond Pearce LLP

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