

Statement made on behalf of the Claimant
Witness: Gary Weston
Date of Statement: 29 September 2005

Court of Appeal Reference: A2/2005/1093

IN THE COURT OF APPEAL (CIVIL DIVISION)
ON APPEAL FROM THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
QUEEN'S BENCH DIVISION

Lower Court Reference:
Claim No. HQ03X03360

ALIN TURCU

Claimant/ Appellant

- and -

NEWS GROUP NEWSPAPERS LIMITED

Defendant/ Respondent

WITNESS STATEMENT OF GARY WESTON

I, Gary Weston of APCOA Parking UK Ltd, 2 Windmill Business Village, Brooklands Close, Sunbury-on-Thames TW16 7DY, WILL SAY as follows.

1. I have been employed by APCOA since 1999. I am a contract manager. In the past I have worked as a member of the civil staff of the Metropolitan Police. APCOA is a large parking management company and provides Parking Enforcement services to many local authorities. On 1 September 2002 the News of the World published an article entitled "Drug Traffic-kers" by Mazher Mahmood. The article alleged that APCOA Parking Attendant Staff in our Wandsworth contract were dealing in drugs in the course of their work. I was the contract manager at Wandsworth. An immediate investigation was launched into the allegations, which was conducted by myself and APCOA's security manager Peter Griffiths.
2. It was apparent that the source of the story was Florim Gashi, who was working for APCOA. In the course of the investigation I interviewed Robin Hallsworth, who was Mr Gashi's supervisor. I was keen to ensure that I knew everything that might be relevant to this matter and I asked Mr Hallsworth to tell me anything that I ought to know. He volunteered the information that he had supplied Mr Gashi with a gun. He said that it was not a real gun and that he sold it to Gashi at his home outside working hours. At that time I had no cause to interview Mr Gashi regarding this matter.
3. Mr Hallsworth no longer works for APCOA. I am seeking to obtain information concerning his current whereabouts. I believe the facts stated in this witness statement are true.

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Gary Weston

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Date