For Distribution to CPs

PCC resolve privacy complaint

The Press Complaints Commission has resolved a privacy complaint from Allegra Versace Beck against NOW magazine. This was in response to the publication of an article, which speculated about Ms Versace Beck's health and which was accompanied by photographs of her taken while shopping in London.

In an agreed settlement, the magazine published an apology to the complainant for the intrusion and gave an undertaking about future publication. The text of the apology is reproduced below:

AN APOLOGY TO ALLEGRA VERSACE BECK

In our issue dated 15 September 2004 on pages 12 and 13, we published an article illustrated with some photos entitled 'Yes, you can be too rich and too thin', concerning Allegra Versace Beck. We speculated about Ms Versace Beck's health and wellbeing, which we accept we should not have done. We wish to apologise to her for this intrusion into her private life. We have agreed that we will not repeat the article or republish the photos about which she complained; nor will we publish anything similar.

To read the full summary of the resolution, click here

The complaint is one of a number of high-profile privacy complaints that the PCC has resolved recently. The Commission will shortly be publishing a paper about privacy, which will compare the Commission's position on the subject with recent court decisions such as Campbell v MGN and von Hannover v Germany.

ENDS

For more information, please contact Stephen Abell on 020 7353 1248

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