

The Leveson Inquiry

Witness Statement for Part 1, Module 1

Supplemental Witness statement of Mark Lewis

I, Mark Lewis of Taylor Hampton Solicitors 218 Strand, London WC2R 1AT will say as follows:

Documents
referred to

1. I make this supplemental statement in connection with my role as a Core Participant in the Leveson Inquiry.

2. For the purposes of this supplemental statement, I refer to a small paginated bundle of documents marked "ML2". Where I refer to page numbers in this statement, I am referring to pages in "ML2". Whilst I refer to selected extracts from this bundle, "ML2" is only to be disclosed to Lord Justice Leveson and counsel to the Inquiry. The documents contain intrusive private information, confidential information and privileged information and I do not consent to its disclosure otherwise than as described here.

3. On 4th November 2011 I attended a meeting at a police station in Putney. I was shown a dossier of information which I am told was handed to the police by News International. I was also shown a video recording that had been taken as part of covert surveillance. The video was taken by an agent used by News International called Derek Webb.



The police also informed me that another report into my private life had been commissioned by Julian Pike of Farrer & Co upon the instruction of Tom Crone at News International using an organisation called "Tectrix". I understand that Julian Pike had telephone conversations with Ian Edmondson to compare the different reports they had obtained. It is notable that Farrer & Co and the firm's Partner Julian Pike appear to have countenanced and were using information from Mr Webb's report

and Ian Edmondson even though they didn't specifically commission this report (having commissioned their own separate investigation).

4. The contents of the video were sickening. It is bad enough that a firm of solicitors, Farrer & Co, considered it proper to investigate me at the instruction of their client through their in-house counsel, Tom Crone. However, the fact that the surveillance extended to videoing my daughter Orli (who was 14 at the time of the surveillance) and my ex-wife, Shelley, is completely unacceptable. The video shows them leaving the house, and going to a garden centre 4 miles away. The house that was then occupied by my 4 teenage daughters is then filmed during the onset of nightfall and the video culminates with a shot of Shelley in Cheadle about 15 miles away. It is truly inexcusable conduct and will be the subject of professional complaints against Farrer & Co, Julian Pike and Tom Crone. As I have said, whilst Mr Pike and Mr Crone might not have commissioned both reports it is clear that they were at least aware of and used the information in Webb's report to satisfy their desire to gather evidence upon me and others. In addition to the reports prepared about me, [REDACTED] have told me that they had information that [REDACTED] had been hacking into my phone. It reported that I had been "hacked and tracked" and there has been no denial, so far as I am aware, from News International.
5. The level that Farrer & Co and News International went to in order to stop me from acting for clients, stifle claims, and try and ruin my career is truly staggering. A solicitor must be able to seek justice on behalf of his or her clients without having to be fearful of these sinister activities.
6. I have been informed that two Leading Counsel advised News Group Newspapers Limited. The first (in July 2009) was Gavin Millar QC (who I understand is now acting for Glenn Mulcaire) and the second was Gregory Treverton-Jones QC who suggested that my former client Gordon Taylor should be persuaded to sue me. Mr Treverton-Jones opined that he had met me and claimed "off the record" (although a record was taken by Farrers) that he had spoken to me and that I was a "bit of a wide boy". I have never

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knowingly met or spoken to Mr Treverton-Jones and I do not believe that I am a wide boy. I faced the barrage of investigation and accusation from News International because I had proved that the unlawful acts of hacking phones went beyond the "one rogue reporter" Clive Goodman.

7. I attach a copy of an attendance note from Farrer & Co dated 13 May 2010 and a report from Julian Pike dated 5 September 2011. I also attach a letter of 7 September 2011 from Farrer & Co to Linklaters.

8. [REDACTED]

9. [REDACTED]

10. The impact of the pursuit of me and my daughters is devastating. I frequently had conversations with Julian Pike and his assistant Rowena Cordery without being aware that they had pursued a very personal investigation into me and had records that could enable them to take unfair advantage. I now look back at the occasions

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when I met Julian Pike knowing that he had intrusive personal details about me and my family .

11. In a document headed "Report III" it recorded as a "key point" that:
"The News of the World is planning to use these tensions and motivations as a way to force compromise and settlement".
12. Perhaps the best summation of what was being done is set out in the email from Julian Pike to Tom Crone dated 26 March 2010 (besides the regret that he was unable to persuade the Senior Partner of JMW to take part in a VAT fraud) under the heading "solicitors". "I think we should look again at preventing JMW and Stripes from acting. They will both continue to be deeply untrustworthy (continuous leaks to the Guardian) and the potential cost savings of JMW acting did not exactly materialize in Clifford. I think we should go and get a view on the question of conflict. Gregory Treverton-Jones is the man who wrote the book. If we can stop Harris, Lewis and Reed acting, it could be beneficial. I have not mentioned to Taylor's lawyers that Lewis has appeared acting for Phillips but I strongly suspect Taylor may want to add this to the SRA complaint he has made against Lewis (such a complaint was dismissed in its entirety)



13. It is perhaps not particularly surprising that the News of the World should carry out sinister and intrusive surveillance on those they are targeting, but I was astounded to find out that Farrer & Co and the barrister Tom Crone should have joined-in such disgraceful misconduct. I think that the level they stooped to is something that brings great shame upon the legal profession.

Statement of Truth

I believe that the facts stated in this witness statement are true.

DATED the 21 day of November 2011

SIGNED:

A black rectangular redaction box covers the signature area.