

Witness Name **GRO-B**

Statement No. WITN6879001

Dated: 4th October 2021

INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY

FIRST WRITTEN STATEMENT OF **GRO-B**

I provide this statement in response to a request under Rule 9 of the Inquiry Rules 2006 dated 7th September 2021. I adopt the paragraph numbering in the Rule 9 request for ease of reference.

I, **GRO-B** will say as follows:-

1. Introduction

1. My name is **GRO-B** My date of birth is **GRO-B**
GRO-B and my address is known to the Inquiry.

2. I am married with two grown up children and I am employed as a
GRO-B

2. How Affected

1. My dad, **GRO-B: F** died on **GRO-B** He
was **GRO-B** and worked for many years as a **GRO-B** for
GRO-B My parents also had a **GRO-B**
GRO-B on which my dad built a bungalow for us and ran a small **GRO-B**

GRO-B I remember when I was approximately **GRO-B** years old, **GRO-B** was ready. My dad would work all day at his job, and then come home and toil every evening and weekends building our new home. He worked very hard and was a fit strong man.

2. He was also a very generous and good-natured person. We lived near the coast and often people would get their cars stuck in the soft sand. I recall my dad and I taking our Land Rover over to the beach to pull them out. Dad would never charge them for doing this service although some others did.

3. In **GRO-B** Dad underwent a **GRO-B** at the **GRO-B**. He was told that he was **GRO-B** **GRO-B** to have this type of operation in **GRO-B** My mother, **GRO-B** provides more detailed information about this in her statement to the Inquiry.

4. After the operation, Dad continued to receive treatment, but the side effects were severe. He lost a huge amount of weight and developed lesions on his face, neck, throat and upper chest. He was listless and had no appetite. My mother and I were not warned of these possible side effects by his treating clinicians and no information was provided to us about what to expect.

5. I remember travelling by train to go and see my dad at the **GRO-B** **GRO-B** I was shocked that he looked so awful and emaciated. I was extremely worried about him.

6. By December **GRO-B** Dad had significantly deteriorated and was transferred to **GRO-B** where they told my mum, there was nothing they could do for him and that we should just accept the fact that he was dying. Mum insisted that he be moved to **GRO-B**

7. At the **GRO-B** Dad was under the care of **GRO-B** **GRO-B** carried out dozens of tests on my dad to find out why he had gone downhill so fast, it transpired that he had reacted badly to the treatment he received at the **GRO-B** and I believe that at that time, he was also suffering with the symptoms of hepatitis C, i.e. listlessness, fatigue and lesions on his face, neck, throat and upper chest, and that was why he became so critically ill. The treatment also caused my dad **GRO-B** damage, which meant that he had to undergo **GRO-B** treatment. By this time, he did not have any strength left to fight and went into a steady decline and never recovered.

8. I recall my parents going to see a faith healer in the hope that it would go some way to help. They were willing to try anything to make him better.

3. Other Infections

1. Please refer to my mum's statement to the Inquiry **GRO-B**. I am unable provide any additional information.

4. Consent

1. I strongly suspect and believe that Dad was given a blood transfusion(s) during his operation/treatment at the **GRO-B** **GRO-B** that he or Mum had been unaware of.
2. Between **GRO-B** and **GRO-B** there had been an aggressive deterioration in my father.
3. Dad was not a well-educated man, but he and we, knew something had gone wrong.

4. I believe that hepatitis C was not diagnosed because even the clinicians did not know what they were looking for at that time.

5. Impact

1. Dad died on **GRO-B** At the time I was a **GRO-B**
GRO-B The job was very stressful, as it was
the time of **GRO-B** I can still recall Dad taking
me for the interview back in **GRO-B** Despite his and Mum's obvious
worries and concerns about the job, he still gave me his full support.
2. We had a very close relationship as I had no other siblings.
3. At my **GRO-B** Dad was so ill. I remember thinking that he
looked like an old man.
4. When Dad died, I was **GRO-B** I would work all week
and go home at weekends. I was on my last shift when I got the call at
work that my dad had passed away.
5. I feel so sad and frustrated by the whole thing. I miss my dad so much.
He was always there to offer advice and support and I could always
talk and confide in him about my worries or concerns which is so
important in my line of work.
6. I regret that Dad never got the opportunity to meet his grandchildren
and great grandchildren.

6. Treatment/Care/Support

1. No counselling or psychological support was or has been offered to my
father, mother or myself.

7. Financial Assistance

1. My parents did not receive financial assistance from any of the Trusts/Funds and were never advised of this.
2. Life was very difficult for my Mum financially after my father died. She had to sell the bungalow and go into rented accommodation. She eventually managed to save enough money open a small **GRO-B** but she will never be able to afford to own her own home again.

8. Issues

1. I feel frustrated and saddened that this happened to my dad.
2. When my dad died, I thought very seriously about resigning from the **GRO-B** was at the height of the **GRO-B** I had to consider what would happen to my mum if I was killed or injured and the effect it would have on her, as she would be on her own. This was a very relevant possibility, especially being **GRO-B** in **GRO-B** and the path I had chosen in the **GRO-B** was wholly focussed on **GRO-B**
3. Uncles who were brothers of my dad and his friends told me how proud he was of me in what I was doing. I recall that he would always look forward to me telling him about my experiences at work when I was at home.
4. I decided that I would carry on with my career and completed 30 years **GRO-B** receiving many **GRO-B** and **GRO-B** for my **GRO-B** These awards are framed and on display today in my mum's house and I regret that my dad never got to see them or the man I have become.

Statement of Truth

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

Signed

GRO-B

Dated

4/10/21

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