

Witness Name: Christine Faruqi

Statement No.: WITN3669001

Exhibits: **WITN3669002**

Dated: 19.11.19

## INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY

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### WRITTEN STATEMENT OF CHRISTINE FARUQI

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I provide this statement in response to a request under Rule 9 of the Inquiry Rules 2006 dated 5 September 2019.

I, Christine Faruqi, will say as follows: -

#### **Section 1. Introduction**

1. My name is Christine Faruqi. My date of birth is GRO-C 1962 and my address is known to the Inquiry. I have been married to my husband for 28 years and we do not have any children.
2. I am affected by my late father's death from a suspected hepatitis C infection. I intend to speak about my late father's suspected hepatitis C infection. In particular, the nature of his illness, how the illness affected him, the treatment he received and the impact it had on him and our lives together.

## Section 2. How Affected

3. My dad's full name was Terence George Moore, but he was known as 'Terry'. Dad was born on [GRO-C] 1935 in [GRO-C]. He died on [GRO-C] 1985 at Addenbrookes Hospital.
4. The causes of death listed on his death certificate are: a perforated bowel, renal failure and epistaxis. The death certificate is labelled as Exhibit **WITN3669002**. Although hepatitis C is not listed as a cause of death on the death certificate, and there is nothing at all blood related on the death certificate, we have always felt that something was not right, as we should not have lost dad at such a young age when he was able-bodied and healthy.
5. As far as I am concerned, there was an infection from the platelets he was given in 1985. That is why I got in contact with the Inquiry.
6. Dad had a younger brother named Alan. There was 8 years between them. They were very close to each other. They shared a sense of humour and Alan looked up to my dad, being that much older.
7. My mum and dad married in 1957. They lost their first baby and then had my brother, who has just turned 60, followed by myself. At that point dad was a draughtsman in Woolwich Arsenal. He had trained as a draughtsman.
8. My mum was [GRO-C]. She is [GRO-C]. When I was 5 years old we moved to [GRO-C] Suffolk, [GRO-C]. [GRO-C]. The [GRO-C] moved to the seaside because [GRO-C].
9. My parents ran a hardware shop when we moved to the seaside. When I was around 18 years old, someone offered to buy the hardware shop,

and my father sold it to him. After he sold the shop, dad went back to working as a draughtsman again.

10. After working as a draughtsman for a while, dad lost his job because of the economic recession that took place in the late 1980's. There was that kind of policy of 'last one in is the first one out' when the recession came around, and as a result of this dad lost his job, having been one of the most recent people hired.
11. After this, they moved again. My parents found a village store and post office in GRO-C, which is on the border of Suffolk and Essex. Dad trained to be a sub-postmaster there, and mum and dad ran the store.
12. Health wise, dad never really had any issues. In around 1980, when I was at college, he was diagnosed with having a sticky valve in his heart, but this problem was stable and he took medication for it. It was not bad enough for an operation. Other than that, he had a broken leg in 1953. Mum also thinks he had rheumatic fever as a teenager.
13. He was a fit and healthy 50-year-old at the time that he became ill. He was slim, active, he played bowls, and he had a big Alsatian that he would take for long walks in the woods every day. As I mentioned previously, he was in full-time employment as a sub-postmaster and proprietor of a small but busy village store. There was nothing which made us think that there was anything wrong with him.
14. During Easter 1985, I had come home for a while from my first teaching job which was in GRO-C Suffolk. I was 23 at the time. I had come home for mum to look after me as I had a bad flu bug. I passed the bug on to dad, but I think that he was nearly over it before he became ill.
15. Over the Easter long weekend in April 1985, dad started to experience nosebleeds. He could not go to the doctor as it was the Easter long weekend. As mum remembers it, he must have taken himself to A & E at the Heath Road Hospital in Ipswich, as it was known in those days (it

is now known as Ipswich Hospital). He went back and forth to the hospital over the Easter weekend, as the nosebleeds would not stop.

16. About a week later, on 15 April 1985, dad was admitted to Heath Road Hospital, as the nosebleeds still would not stop. The first thing the doctors at Heath Road did was to pack dad's nose. This involved them putting wadding up the nose to stop the bleeding. However, the bleeding would not stop and at one point they had a whole team of junior doctors come around with their supervisor as dad was crying tears of blood.
17. They then tied an artery in his neck but the bleeding continued. At that point, mum told me that the doctors informed her that dad would have to be sedated and taken into ITU (the Intensive Therapy Unit). They said that the sedation was only to stop the bleeding. Mum informed me that dad was then given transfusions of platelets.
18. Dad was only in a general ward for around 1-2 weeks at Heath Road Hospital before he was taken into the ITU. As I mentioned previously, when he was taken into ITU he was sedated. From that point on, he remained sedated up until his death. They reduced the sedation at times, to move him around. But, even then he was still not fully conscious and aware. Mum remembers that he could not have a conversation with us.
19. Mum said that she was not asked for her consent for dad to be given the platelets. Dad was unconscious at the time, and mum was not given any option, she was just told, "This is what we are doing".
20. The week around the bank holiday, which was the end of May 1985, Heath Road were looking to move dad to the London Hospital, as by this point they were very concerned because dad's kidneys had failed and he was on dialysis. He was not permanently hooked up to the dialysis machine, he was receiving it sporadically. I don't remember how long dad was on dialysis for.

21. Dad was still receiving platelets all the time throughout this period. They couldn't find a bed for him in London, so about 19 days later, around 11 June 2019, he was moved to Addenbrookes Hospital in Cambridge. The hospital had a good reputation, and it wasn't far to get to from Ipswich.
22. I know from my mum, that it was platelets that dad was given, not pure blood transfusions. However, I don't know the amount or type of platelets that he was given. He was given platelets frequently during the whole time that he was at both Heath Road and Addenbrookes hospitals.
23. As far as I am aware, dad did not have any other transfusions prior to receiving the platelets at Heath Road and Addenbrookes.
24. Dad did not have any tattoos or piercings. He had never been on any exotic holidays; he was not really a traveller.
25. Somewhere along the line, I think that the doctors mentioned septicaemia to us. However, mum does not remember this.
26. Dad passed away on [GRO-C] 1985. My brother and I were at my mum's house in [GRO-C] and the hospital phoned us early in the morning that day and told us that he was not going to make it. We went over to the hospital and he had passed away. We then went over to our uncle Alan's home in [GRO-C] and spent the day with his family.
27. Dad was in hospital for a total of [GRO-C] weeks from when he initially went in with the nose bleeds. He was given platelets throughout the entire [GRO-C] week period.
28. The doctors at Heath Road and Addenbrookes were genuinely puzzled that an able bodied, healthy 50-year-old could die. It was unusual. We seem to recall them using the phrase, "This shouldn't be happening", frequently.

29. The nursing teams at both Heath Road and Addenbrookes were fabulous. They were just lovely. There was never any question as to whether dad was well looked after. I couldn't fault the care.

30. My mum told me that the Registrar said that they would not issue the death certificate until they had clearance from the police, and a post-mortem had been carried out, as they were unhappy about the circumstances. There was a post mortem and no foul play was found. The death certificate was issued.

### **Section 3. Other Infections**

31. As far as I am aware, dad did not receive any other infection from the platelet transfusions, besides the suspected hepatitis C.

### **Section 4. Consent**

32. I do not believe that dad was tested without his consent, without being given adequate or full information or for the purposes of research. I don't think he was tested for any infections at all.

33. I do not believe that dad consented to receiving the platelet transfusion as he was unconscious at the time. Mum was not consulted about the transfusion or asked for her consent. She is adamant that she was never asked about anything. She was just told that dad would be given the platelets.

### **Section 5. Impact**

#### **Impact on family members**

34. At the time that dad passed away, my younger brother was single and was working as a church organ builder. A few years after dad's passing,

he married and had children, so dad never got to know his grandchildren and they never knew him. I think that is sad.

35. When I speak to my mum about how long she was married to dad, she always says "I feel very cheated he was taken from me so early". They married in 1957, so dad was taken not long past their silver wedding anniversary. That's mum's phrase, "I feel cheated", and she often says it.

36. At the time that dad passed away, I was in my first teaching job in GRO-C. Every night, the deputy head would drop me at the hospital to visit dad.

37. My dad never met my husband, who he would have got on well with. He never knew that I have been a Deputy Head and Acting Head Teacher. He would have been very proud.

38. My grandma (dad's mum) was still alive when dad passed away. She lived into her 90's. She was obviously devastated at the loss of her eldest son. No parent wants to outlive their child. Dad had been very supportive- doing jobs for her, having her stay for several weeks when she was widowed, keeping an eye on her generally. He and mum visited regularly, since she was relatively close by (living in GRO-C). She did GRO-C She eventually moved into a nursing home.

#### **Financial impact**

39. As I mentioned previously, at the time that dad passed away he was a sub-postmaster at the village store that he and mum owned. Mum helped out in the store.

40. When dad became ill, and was in hospital, they had a temporary sub-postmaster in the post office to help out as mum was visiting dad in hospital a lot.

41. Mum knew that she was not able to keep the business going on her own as she [GRO-C] and she has never been. She also had 2 elderly staff members who helped out in the shop. Mum eventually put the business up for sale.

42. She bought a bungalow and stayed in [GRO-C] for a while. My brother later married and started having a family, so he moved away to Norfolk.

43. Mum did some part-time work after she sold the business. She worked part-time doing the books for a local shed making company. Her [GRO-C]  
[GRO-C] She was not too badly off financially.

#### **Section 6. Treatment/Care/Support**

44. As I mentioned previously, we were quite happy with the treatment that dad received at both Heath Road and Addenbrookes.

45. Toward the end, when dad was sedated, the staff encouraged us to talk to him, but he obviously could not respond. One time, mum said to the nurse, "I don't even know if he knows who it is". He couldn't squeeze anyone's hand or anything like that.

#### **Section 7. Financial Assistance**

46. We have not applied to any of the trusts of schemes for any kind of financial assistance.

#### **Section 8. Other Issues**

47. I have nothing further I would like to add at this time.



**Statement of Truth**

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

Signed

GRO-C

Dated

19.11.19