

Witness Name: T Crawford  
Statement No: WITN3006001  
Exhibits: 0  
Dated: March 2019

## INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY

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### FIRST WRITTEN STATEMENT OF TRACEY CRAWFORD

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I, Tracey Crawford, will say as follows:-

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

1. My name is Tracey Crawford and I was born on [GRO-C] 1972. I live at [GRO-C] Derbyshire, [GRO-C] I work full time at Sainsburys and have two children, aged 18 and 21.
2. I make this statement as an affected person in relation to my late father, Ian David Stimpson, who was born on [GRO-C] 1949 and passed away on 7<sup>th</sup> February 1995 aged only 45, as a result of receiving contaminated whole blood transfusions.
3. **This witness statement has been prepared without the benefit of access to my father's medical records.**

#### **Section 2. How Affected**

4. My father had two kidney transplants during the 1980s at the Renal Unit at Nottingham City Hospital. He received a large number of whole blood transfusions during these procedures.

5. My father's consultant was Dr Morgan.
6. As far as I am aware, my father was not given any advice regarding the risks of receiving whole blood transfusions.
7. My father contracted Hepatitis C as a result of receiving contaminated whole blood transfusions.
8. My father was never told that he had Hepatitis C.
9. My mother and my auntie only found out about my father's Hepatitis C infection after his death. They saw that the consultant had recorded that one of the causes of death as non-alcohol related Hepatitis C.
10. Following this shock finding, my mother and my auntie requested an urgent meeting at the Nottingham City Hospital. I understand that they did not find out much information at this meeting but they did discover that he had been infected with Hepatitis C following the numerous whole blood transfusions he had received in the 1980s.

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

11. I don't know if my father was exposed to any other infections.

### **Section 4. Consent**

12. I don't think my father was tested, treated or used for research purposes without his knowledge and therefore without his consent.

### **Section 5. Impact**

13. I was aged only 21 when my father passed away. My mother and my auntie chose to keep the news of how my father died a secret from me.

14. I only found out last week how my father passed away. I was on the telephone to my auntie and she made a comment about my father having died from Hepatitis C.
15. I think she either thought that I knew by now or that she made the comment by mistake. Either way, I just pretended that I already knew but I was in total shock.
16. It is fair to say that I am still completely shocked and numb having only had about a week to try and process this bombshell news. Up until last week I thought that my father passed away from kidney disease.
17. I have one sister who lives in Australia and as far as I am aware she has no idea as to how my father died.
18. Looking back I can't really say that I noticed that my father had any distinct symptoms from his Hepatitis C. However, this is probably because he was a poorly man who spent a considerable amount of time in hospital due to his renal problems.
19. However, I do recall a time when my father was admitted to Birmingham Hospital due to problems with his liver. I think that this was in 1994 and I recall that he also had an infection at this time.
20. My father had to deal with crumbling hip joints which was as a result of the anti-rejection tablets he had to take to prevent his body from rejecting the new kidneys. He had to walk with two walking sticks and his mobility was very poor.
21. My childhood days were spent going to school and then going straight to the Nottingham City Hospital from school to visit my father. This was how my life was; day in and day out.
22. I do have some happy memories of my father before he became ill. I used to accompany him to budgie shows and we would travel to Cleethorpes to show

his budgies and he often won. My sister never came with us; it was always me who followed my father around.

23. I do remember that I was distraught when I lost my father aged 21. I was due to get married that year and I ended up ditching my fiancée. My father had never liked him anyway.

24. I am angry that my father was taken from me far too young. He could have lived a lot longer if he had not been given contaminated whole blood transfusions and been a part of mine and his grandchildren's lives.

#### **Section 6. Treatment/care/support**

25. My father was not aware that he was infected with Hepatitis C during his lifetime. However, it is possible that the medical professionals were aware of this infection.

26. However, as far as I can recall my father never suffered any obstacles in relation to accessing medical or dental services.

27. Neither my father nor I have been offered any counselling or psychological support.

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

28. My father, mother, auntie and I never received any financial assistance from any Trust.

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

29. I am so new to this scandal but I want the truth and answers. I want to know what happened for the sake of my father and for all the other people who have suffered.

**Anonymity**

30. I do not want to apply for anonymity and I do not wish to give oral evidence to the Inquiry.

**Statement of Truth**

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

Signed.....T Crawford ..

GRO-C

Dated.....28/3/19.....28/3/19.....