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17 April 2008

- As promised we continue our weekly review of matters related to the up and coming judicial enquiry.
- Still no call for Iain to appear before Fiona McBride’s Employment Tribunal as a witness. While it is no surprise that she has not called him – despite the promises of her supporters – it is rather strange that the defenders, the Scottish Police Services Authority (SPSA), have not done so given the provable lies and distortions that the ex SCRO experts have indulged in over the years. One explanation might be that perhaps David Mulhern, Chief Executive of the SPSA, has his own personnel problems that he doesn’t want revealed. In addition the present unseemly spat with the Scottish Police Service for the heart of that service is making all the wrong sort of headlines for someone whose expressed goal is a ‘world class’ forensic service.
- Interestingly the SPSA has issued a briefing on the judicial enquiry for its employees. It raises the intriguing possibility of the enquiry being televised and the provision of viewing rooms at the four fingerprint bureaux in Aberdeen, Dundee, Edinburgh and Glasgow. Could make interesting reality TV!

<http://shirleymckie.com/documents/SPSAEnquiryBriefing16April08.pdf>

- As the management of the SPSA well realise this enquiry has the potential to highlight a number of serious issues that it has failed to resolve in the wake of the SCRO scandal. Top of this list comes the fact that a number of their ex SCRO fingerprint experts still cling to the discredited belief that their colleagues were correct in identifying the Shirley McKie (Y7) and Marion Ross (Q12) prints. They do this in the face of an acceptance by Mr. Mulhern and the SPSA, the Crown Office, the Scottish Government and a mass of international experts, enquiries and reports that the identifications are wrong. This failure to accept reality must call into question the integrity and competence of these experts who despite overwhelming evidence continue to support experts who have been proven to be at best incompetent and at worst criminal. What faith can the Scottish public have that more mistakes do not lie undetected in the SPSA files.
- Another of the SPSA problems is that while Mr. Mulhern was attempting to launch the new organisation in the face of considerable police opposition he failed to look after certain employees who by their honesty and integrity had cause to ‘whistleblow’ in the lead up to the SPSA birth. While the SCRO supporters were allowed to work on unchallenged others seeking to expose that all was not well within the new service were silenced.
- There is little doubt that the judicial enquiry will be carefully followed by the UK fingerprint authorities despite their attempt at pretending nothing is wrong within the profession. As the Fingerprint Society drags them further into the mire the rattling of a number of skeleton’s can be heard coming from a number of establishment cupboards.
- The critical issue however still remains the need to ensure that all witnesses are placed on oath. At the Justice 1 Enquiry blatant lies were told and with a few honourable exceptions there was little incisive, informed examination of the testimony. There should be no hiding place for liars and those who seek to in any way hide the truth.

Your comments on the above or any other subjects are welcome:

<http://shirleymckie.myfastforum.org/forum1.php>