



**STATEMENT OF WITNESS**

**STATEMENT OF RUTH LEONARD**

**DATED THIS** ..... **DAY OF** ..... **2008**

I, RUTH LEONARD, declare that this statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that if it is tendered in evidence at the Inquiry I will be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.

1. The Inquiry has disclosed a number of documents to me. Where I make specific reference to a document in my statement I have given the number of the relevant page.
2. In April 1997 I was the Control Assistant on duty in the Southern Division Ambulance Control in Craigavon. I worked under the instruction of Sue Morrow at that time, who was the Control Officer. Sue was ultimately responsible for the deployment of ambulances. Whilst I could be asked to give out calls if Sue was busy on the radio or with other calls, I would always check with her before doing so. We worked as a team.
3. On the night of 26 – 27 April 1997 my shift began at midnight and ended at 08:00. It was a busy night; night duty is invariably busy and a Saturday night is the busiest night duty of the week. Sue Morrow and I were the only 2 people on duty in the Control Centre, and we were solely responsible for covering the 6 ambulance stations in that area for the duration of the shift.
4. I received the 999 in connection with this incident and I despatched an ambulance (call sign 322). To my knowledge the records show just one emergency call for an ambulance in relation to the incident at Market Street / Thomas Street in