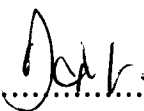
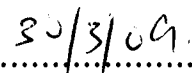


37. I have been asked whether I was surprised at the DPP decision to offer no evidence against Reserve Constable Atkinson and the others. I was not necessarily surprised by it, taking into account the fact that Andrea McKee told lies in 1997 then decided to tell the truth in 2000. There were already issues around her credibility, but then there was also the fact that we could not prove that she had been to a doctor on call out when she said she had been on 19 December 2003. I do not feel that the issue about Andrea McKee's credibility was overplayed. The very fact that Ivor Morrison and Christine Smith went to Wrexham to assess her shows Andrea McKee's level of importance in this case. The final decision was taken by the DPP in consultation with senior police officers. Once the papers were with the DPP, it was no longer a matter for us.
38. I can confirm that I knew Reserve Constable Atkinson from seeing him around Portadown and various police stations. He did not have any involvement with our conspiracy investigation, nor did he ever attempt to influence it. I can confirm that at absolutely no point did I sense any reluctance on the part of anyone at the PSNI to pursue Reserve Constable Atkinson or any of the conspirators. In fact, it was full steam ahead. There were avenues open to us that would not have been open to us in an ordinary investigation into conspiracy to pervert the course of justice, but I cannot go into those here.

SIGNED:.....

H

DATED:.....