



**Mr N V Todd MD FRCS**  
**Consultant Neurosurgeon & Spinal Surgeon**

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Our ref: NVT/SD/30585

Tuesday 18 July 2006

Dear Ms Fitzmaurice

**Re: Robert Hamill Inquiry**

**Introduction**

Thank you for passing on to me the medical report of Dr Lawler (Consultant Forensic Pathologist and Home Office Pathologist) dated 23.11.04 and the report of Dr Reid (Consultant Neuropathologist) dated 21.05.05.

**Review Medical Report of Dr Lawler**

Dr Lawler's conclusions are that there was:

*"an unequivocal and incontrovertible direct cause and effect relationship between the assault on 27.04.97 and the deceased's death on 08.05.97.*

*I believe that the sequence of events can be summarised as follows:-*

- *Assault causing significant and permanent traumatic diffuse axonal injury and temporary unconsciousness; this necessitated*
- *Admission to hospital where treatment included*
- *Administration of chlorpromazine... This caused*
- *Development of the neuroleptic malignant syndrome. This is a well recognized but very rare complication of treatment with chlorpromazine and other similar drugs. This then caused*
- *Death".*