

# A R W Forrest LLM, FRCP, FRCPath GMC Number: 1333523 Her Majesty's Senior Coroner for South Lincolnshire

## **REGULATION 28: REPORT TO PREVENT FUTURE DEATHS (1)**

NOTE: This form is to be used after an inquest.

	REGULATION 28 REPORT TO PREVENT FUTURE DEATHS
	THIS REPORT IS BEING SENT TO:
	Rt Hon John Hayes MP, Minister of State for Transport, Great Minster
	House, 33 Horseferry Road, London, SW1P 4DR
1	CORONER
	Lom ADW Forrost Sonior Coroner for the Coroner's area of South Live Inchis
	I am ARW Forrest, Senior Coroner for the Coroner's area of South Lincolnshire.
2	CORONER'S LEGAL POWERS
	I make this report under paragraph 7, Schedule 5, of the Coroners and Justice Act 2009
	and regulations 28 and 29 of the Coroners (Investigations) Regulations 2013.
3	INVESTIGATION and INQUEST
	On 15 <sup>th</sup> January 2014 I commenced an investigation into the death of Charles Albert
	William Pierson, age 84 years. The investigation concluded at the end of the inquest on
	6 <sup>TH</sup> August 2014. The conclusion of the inquest was ACCIDENT.
4	CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DEATH
	On 24 <sup>th</sup> December 2013 at about 11.30am Mr Pierson and his wife arrived at the car
	park at Tesco's store at Northgate, Sleaford.
	collect a trolley. As Mr Pierson reversed into a disabled driving space an incident
	occurred in which he collided with a bollard and knocked over
	then accelerated forward and collided with a kerb, then a lamp post. His seat belt
	was fitted with a clip that inhibited its proper operation. This meant that his seat
	belt did not prevent him from being thrown forward and sustaining the fractured
	sternum that led to his death. These seat belt clips are available from retail
	sources for example from Amazon.co.uk, being described as "seat belt adjuster
	stopper clips" an image is attached to this report.



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#### 5 CORONER'S CONCERNS

During the course of the inquest the evidence revealed matters giving rise to concern. In my opinion there is a risk that future deaths will occur unless action is taken. In the circumstances it is my statutory duty to report to you.

The MATTERS OF CONCERN are as follows. -

Mr Pierson had one of these clips attached to his seat belt. This inhibited its effective operation and resulted in him sustaining the fractured sternum that led to his death. Whilst less common than they used to be these devices remain on sale and their use, to produce in effect, a loose and ineffective seat belt is not presently unlawful.

#### 6 ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN

In my opinion action should be taken to prevent future deaths and I believe you and/or the Department of Transport have the power to take such action.

#### 7 YOUR RESPONSE

You are under a duty to respond to this report within 56 days of the date of this report, namely by 11<sup>th</sup> October 2014. I, the coroner, may extend the period.

Your response must contain details of action taken or proposed to be taken, setting out the timetable for action. Otherwise you must explain why no action is proposed.

#### 8 COPIES and PUBLICATION

I have sent a copy of my report to the Chief Coroner and to the following Interested Persons:

1 – Daughter

- 2. Inspector
- Alexander Peoples, Chief Executive, Driver and Vehicles Standards Agency, PO BOX
   Newcastle on Tyne, NE99 1FP
- 4. Chief Constable Lynne Owens, Head of Uniformed Operations, ACPO, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, 10 Victoria Street, London, SW1H 0NN



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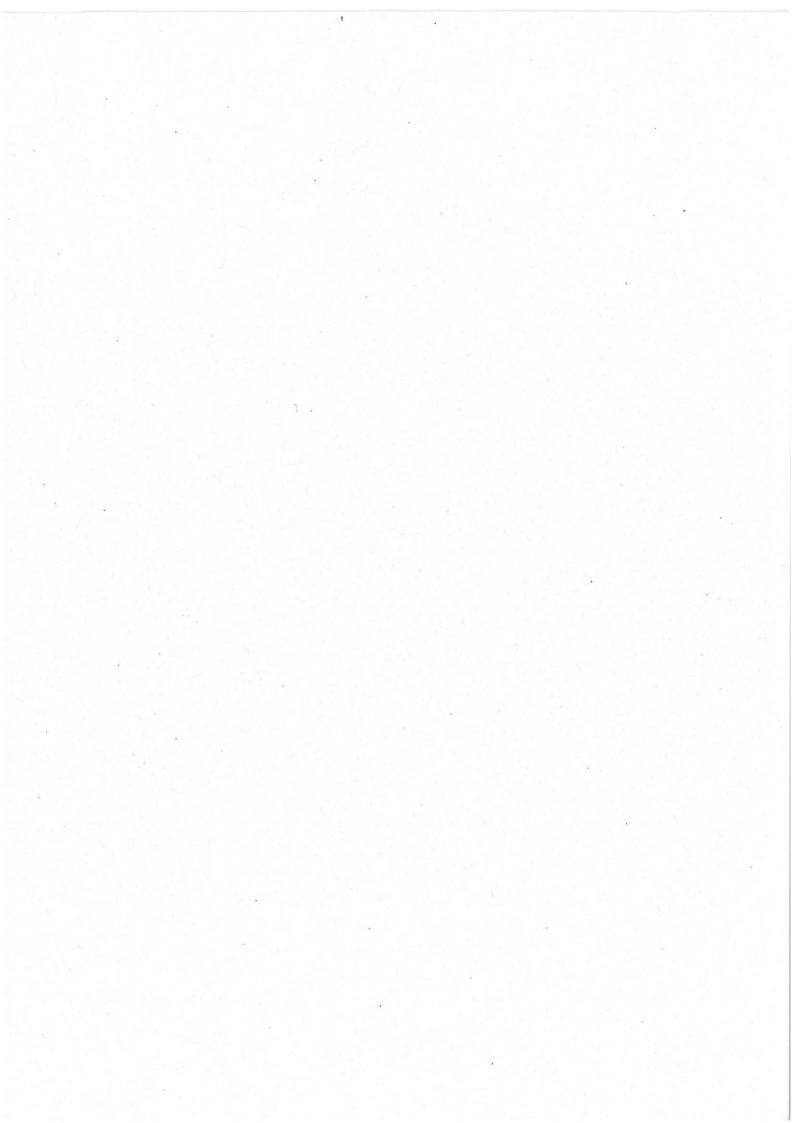
I am also under a duty to send the Chief Coroner a copy of your response.

The Chief Coroner may publish either or both in a complete or redacted or summary form. He may send a co3py of this report to any person who he believes may find it useful or of interest. You may make representations to me, the coroner, at the time of your response, about the release or the publication of your response by the Chief Coroner.

9 8<sup>th</sup> August 2014

ARW Forrest.....

H M Senior Coroner for South Lincolnshire





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