



Inquest into the death of Alexander Perepilichnyy

Coroner: His Honour Judge Nicholas Hilliard QC

DIRECTIONS FOLLOWING PRE-INQUEST REVIEW HEARING ON 13 MARCH 2017

In these directions Interested Person/s shall be referred to as IPs. Counsel to the Inquest is referred to as CTI and Solicitor to the Inquest is referred to as STI.

HM Coroner has not yet determined the issues arising as a result of the material over which public interest immunity has been claimed and, in particular, its impact on whether, and if so how, this inquest can properly proceed. This has been the subject of further written submissions as recently as 4th April 2017. The following directions are handed down in the interest of expediency and do not presuppose the outcome of HM Coroner's ruling.

Hearing

- 1) The inquest shall commence on Monday 5th June 2017 with a time estimate of 3 weeks. A fourth week shall be set aside in the event of over-run.
- 2) The inquest shall be heard at the Old Bailey save for HM Coroner's conclusions which will be given at the Surrey Coroner's Court.

Expert Evidence

- 3) Dr Paul Rice shall be called to give evidence at the inquest.
- 4) Dr Tessa Homfray shall be called to give evidence at the inquest.
- 5) Unless any objections are notified to the STI by 4pm on 21st April 2017 the report of Jennifer Henchcliffe dated 3rd May 2016 shall be read under rule 23 of the Coroners (Inquest) Rules 2013.
- 6) A supplementary report shall be obtained from Dr Fegan-Earl following his review of the latest expert evidence and in advance of the Joint Meeting between experts.
- 7) The matters raised in the letter from the Insurers' counsel dated 17th June 2016, and referred to in Appendix 2 to their submissions for the 13th March 2017 PIR will be put to Professor Simmonds and/or Dr Kite for their comment.

- 8) There shall be a Joint Meeting between experts of like discipline. The STI will contact the IPs with arrangements for the meetings and for submissions on proposed agendas.
- 9) HM Coroner will investigate the feasibility of obtaining the opinion of an expert in (liquid chromatography) mass spectrometry to review the findings of Professor Simmonds and Dr Kite. This shall not delay the Joint Meeting of experts.
- 10) HM Coroner will investigate whether any further testing can feasibly be conducted on exhibits AWF 32 to 35 (stomach, jejunum, duodenum and ileal contents) and the vegetable material reported in Mr Perepilichnyy's lungs (exhibits AWF 30 and 31) to assist the experts in identifying the contents.

Lay Witnesses

- 11) Mrs Perepilichnaya shall provide a further witness statement dealing with the circumstances of her husband's death to be taken by the STI.
- 12) HM Coroner will take witness statements from the following witnesses with a view to calling them to give evidence:
 - a. Mr Ruslan Gursky, brother-in-law of Mr Perepilichnyy.
 - b. Mr Rishat Ismagilov, brother-in-law of Mr Perepilichnyy.
- 13) The following additional witnesses shall be called to give evidence at the inquest:
 - a. DC Lawrence Burden.
 - b. Daniel Weller of SECAMB.
 - c. Adam Heywood of SECAMB.
- 14) HM Coroner will investigate whether the following individuals can be traced and/or can give relevant evidence to the inquest:
 - a. Two witnesses who saw Mr Perepilichnyy running up the hill out of breath (subject to confirmation as to whether this is Mr and Mrs Elias or not).
 - b. The female on her mobile phone in the stretch of road where Mr Perepilichnyy was found.
 - c. The female in the long Oxford white shirt in her 50's who was said to be walking nearby.
 - d. Mr Perepilichnyy's bank manager who was reported to have advised him as to taking out life insurance policies.
- 15) HM Coroner will ask Mrs Perepilichnyy to confirm the identity of the man present in the house following her husband's death, also described as "Valery/Valerie".

Other Matters

- 16) The passages from the Skype messages identified as inaccurately translated by the IPs shall be put to the independent translator along with the proposed accurate translation and covering letter outlining the family's concerns as to the distinction between translation and interpretation.
- 17) No further disclosure is sought from Hermitage Capital Management as to its conference call with Professor Ferner on the understanding that the Court has now been provided with all of his material instructions.
- 18) HM Coroner shall ask Mrs Perepilichnaya and/or Surrey police whether, in so far as they are aware:
 - a. All of Mr Perepilichnyy's mobile phones and mobile phone numbers have been identified.
 - b. All of Mr Perepilichnyy's email addresses have been identified.
 - c. All of Mr Perepilichnyy's computers and electrical devices have been identified.
 - d. Any material relevant to the inquest was found within his paper records and correspondence.

HHJ Nicholas Hilliard QC
Judge-Coroner for the County of Surrey
7th April 2017