

Chair Institute of Directors 116 Pall Mall London SW1Y 5ED

9 August 2022

Mr Ian Parry Senior Coroner's Officer The Coroner's Court for the County of Dorset Town Hall, Bourne Avenue BH2 6DY

Dear Mr Parry

Thank you for sending me the Regulation 28 Report relating to the death of Emiliano Raul Sala.

I must apologise for the delay in replying to you. Unfortunately, your original email was incorrectly identified as potential malware and deleted from our systems. I have now received the report and wish to inform you of the action that the Institute of Directors (IoD) is taking to disseminate the findings amongst its membership.

The IoD will be including a statement relating to the report in its 'Influence' email to its 20,000 members on the 10th August 2022. We have already posted a notice on our website as follows: (https://www.iod.com/news/infrastructure/warning-to-iod-members-concerning-the-dangers-of-unauthorised-flights/).

The content of our summary to members is as follows.

Warning to IoD members concerning the dangers of unauthorised flights

Emiliano Sala was an international professional footballer. On the 21st January 2019 Emiliano was a passenger in a single piston engine aircraft flight from Nantes in France to Cardiff in Wales when it crashed into the sea leading to his death.

The Coroner's investigation has determined that this flight was an illegal flight due to the fact that it was a commercial flight without the required authorisations, certification or permission.

It was also revealed that there is a market in the illegal provision of flights for reward on private aircraft or flown by pilots without an Air Operators Certificate. Evidence was given to the Coroner that this market particularly exists in the world of sport and music. These flights do not meet the minimum safety

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standards for commercial operations and evidence was given this could lead to future aircraft crashes and subsequently, future deaths.

The Civil Aviation Authority has asked the IoD to publicise the risks associated with unauthorised flights amongst its membership. It is essential to raise awareness of this issue amongst IoD members and the general public in order to stop these illegal flights and therefore prevent future deaths.

I hope that this represents a satisfactory response to your request. In the meantime, do not hesitate to contact me if you have further queries.

Yours sincerely



Chair, Institute of Directors

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