

**Mr Jim Wallace, Minister for Justice and
Rt. Hon. The Lord Hardie, Lord Advocate,
The Scottish Parliament,
Edinburgh. EH99 1SP**

**8, Glendoune Road,
Clarkston,
Glasgow G76 7TT
Tele: 0141 644 1669 Fax: 1041 571 8126**

18, February, 2000

Dear Mr Wallace and Lord Hardie,

HMA V Shirley McKie or Cardwell: High Court, Glasgow – 21.4.99 to 14.5.99

I am writing to you both in the hope that it might be possible to obtain a reply to my previous letters.

I have now been in correspondence with you Lord Hardie for almost a year and you Mr Wallace for six weeks and have still not been afforded the courtesy of a reply.

Is anyone taking action to ascertain the truth or otherwise of my allegations as contained in my letters of 9, June, 1999 and 14, January, 2000?

To avoid any confusion I am raising serious questions regarding cover-up, incompetence, and oppression against variously the SCRO and Strathclyde Police.

My understanding is that the first stage of any Inquiry is to meet the complainer and establish the exact nature of his complaints. ***When is this going to happen?*** I am concerned that your failure to take action may allow vital evidence to be 'lost' or destroyed.

I understand from the media that Mr William Robertson, Chairman of SCRO's Executive Committee has announced some form of independent Inquiry under Mr William Taylor, Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Constabulary. After two weeks I have received no official intimation of this Inquiry.

Has such an Inquiry been established?

How can this be an independent Inquiry if Mr Robertson is announcing it?

If an Inquiry has been established why was I, as Complainer, not informed?

Is this an Inquiry established by you?

Who has called for the Inquiry?

Who is carrying out the Inquiry and when?

Who does it report to?

Will it be independent and open?

Will independent fingerprint experts be engaged to review the prosecution and defence productions and the actual mark itself and take evidence from the American experts?

Will these 'independent experts' belong to organisations that have apparently already been engaged in trying to stifle debate on the Shirley McKie case. e.g. New Scotland Yard, the Metropolitan Police?

Will its findings be published and, if so, when?

Are you making any other inquiries and if so what are they and what stage are they at?

Have you any knowledge of a 'hidden agenda' behind this apparent cover-up?

It is a matter of considerable concern to me that I should find myself writing this letter.

I contacted you both in good faith as public officers appointed to protect and preserve my human rights and those of my daughter.

I feel as if my previous requests are being ignored and that consequently the above breaches of my human rights are of little concern to you.

The arrogance and complacency redolent in this case is truly astonishing and sadly your silence and lack of response brings me to a worrying and depressing conclusion.

I look forward to receiving your early response in the fervent hope that, even at this late date, justice will be done and be seen to be done.

Yours sincerely,

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Iain A J McKie

Copies: Mr Michael Russell MSP.

Mr Phil Gallie MSP.

Mr John Scott, Scottish Human Rights Centre.

Sir William Taylor, Her Majesty's Inspector of Constabulary.