

PC wins fight to sue Scots Executive

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AN ex-policewoman has won a legal battle to sue the Scottish Executive.

Shirley McKie claims she was subjected to a "malicious prosecution" over fingerprint evidence at a murder scene.

Miss McKie was earlier cleared of committing perjury after maintaining that a print found in the home of a dead woman was not hers.

A judge at the Court of Session in Edinburgh has now refused to dismiss her civil action.

The ex-detective, who was retired over ill-health, has launched an action seeking (pounds) 750,000 compensation.

She claims that fingerprint experts became aware that the print found was not hers, but it was maintained that it was to protect the reputation of the Scottish Criminal Records Office and to secure a conviction in the murder case.

Miss McKie, 39, of Troon, Ayrshire, was a detective constable with the investigation team when Marion Ross (51) was found murdered at her home in Kilmarnock in January 1997.

David Asbury, 27, of Kilbirnie, Ayrshire, was later jailed for life for the murder though his conviction was quashed on appeal last year.