

CORONER'S COURT

Jurisdiction: Birmingham & Solihull Districts
Acting Senior Coroner: Miss Sarah Elaine Ormond-Walshe

Our ref: MS/lmb
17th September 2013

Mr. J. Brennan,
Chief Executive,
Jurys Inn Birmingham,
245 Broad Street,
Birmingham,
B1 2HQ

Dear Mr. Brennan,

Re: Neil Richard Clark (deceased)

I am reporting this matter to you in accordance with Rule 43 Coroners Rules 1984 (as amended by the Coroners (Amendment) Rules 2008). This rule provides that where the evidence at an inquest gives rise to a concern that circumstances creating a risk of other deaths will occur or will continue to exist in the future, and in the coroner's opinion, action should be taken to prevent the occurrence or continuation of such circumstances, or to eliminate or reduce the risk of death created by such circumstances, the coroner may report the circumstances to a person who may have power to take such action.

In accordance with rule 43, a copy of this report is being sent to the Lord Chancellor and all the other properly interested persons identified at the inquest. A list of copy recipients can be found at the end of this report. Your response to this report will also be shared with those listed.

The Lord Chancellor may send a copy of the report and response to any person who the Lord Chancellor believes may find it useful or of interest. In addition, the Lord Chancellor may publish a full copy or a summary of the report and response (unless I have decided otherwise in response to a written representation about the release and publication of your response).

Rule 43A requires that you give a written response within 56 days of the day the report is sent. If you are unable to respond within that time, you may apply to me for an extension. The response is to contain details of any action that has been taken or which it is proposed will be taken whether in response to this report or otherwise, or an explanation as to why no action is proposed.

If there are circumstances where you do not want your full response to be shared with the copy recipients listed at the end of this report, or for a copy of it to be published, you may make a written representation to me at the time of giving your response.



Coroner's Court 50 Newton Street Birmingham B4 6NE
Tel: (0121) 303 3920 / 303 3228 Fax (0121) 233 4841
Email: coronersofficeenquiries@birmingham.gov.uk

Instead of releasing or publishing your full response it may be possible to share or publish a summary in accordance with rule 43A.

I enclose herewith a copy of the Inquisition following the Inquest that was held on 26th November 2012.

Neil Richard Clark was attending Birmingham with friends to watch cricket. Whilst at the cricket, and in the evening/night afterwards, they consumed a considerable quantity of alcohol and some drugs. At some stage in the evening they separated. Neil Clark appears to have returned to the hotel where they were staying but passed out on a landing/stairwell after leaving his room. He was found by patrolling security guards at approximately 2.45 am who thought that he was drunk. They placed him in the recovery position and left him where he was. At about 08.50 when another guest in the hotel found him and alerted staff who called the emergency services. He was pronounced dead at The Jury's Inn Hotel Broad Street Birmingham on the 28th day of August 2011.

Upon hearing the evidence at the Inquest, I was very concerned that the security guards on duty that evening left Mr. Clark for a period of six hours after initially discovering him on a landing in the hotel. I was very concerned that nobody checked on Mr. Clark at all during that period. Indeed, it was actually a guest who discovered him the following day rather than a member of staff, even though staff were aware that Mr. Clark was on the landing.

I would be grateful if you would arrange for this tragic case to be reviewed and then let me know if you consider that there are lessons which can and should be learned.

Yours sincerely,



Michael John Snell
Assistant Coroner
Birmingham and Solihull Districts

Please note that this letter was prepared following the Inquest but due to an administrative oversight, was not sent. Please accept the Court's apologies for the delay in this matter.