



In the Crown Court at  
Court Location Code  
Case Number

The Central Criminal Court  
413  
T20207137

**Regina v Nigel Wright**

Before The Honourable Mr Justice Warby

At the Plea and Trial Preparation Hearing ("PTPH") conducted remotely from the Central Criminal Court on 13 May 2020

**Reporting Restriction Order under s11 Contempt of Court Act 1981**

**ANY PERSON WHO KNOWS OF THIS ORDER AND DISOBEYS IT MAY BE HELD TO BE IN CONTEMPT OF COURT AND MAY BE IMPRISONED, FINED OR HAVE THEIR ASSETS SEIZED**

**UPON** the Crown's application that the identity of the alleged victim in these proceedings ("the complainant") be withheld from open court and not published

**UPON READING** the prosecution Case Summary

**AND UPON** reading the following further documents ("the Written Submissions"): a Prosecution Note dated 22 March 2020, Defence Outline Observations re:reporting restrictions dated 25 April 2020, and Submissions on behalf of the Complainant dated 13 May 2020

**AND UPON** hearing counsel for the prosecution, for the defendant and for the complainant

**IT IS ORDERED THAT** until after judgment has been given following the Pre-Trial Review ("PTR") provided for by the directions given at the PTPH, or further order in the meantime

1. pursuant to the Court's inherent jurisdiction and section 6 of the Human Rights Act 1998, the following information ("the Identifying Information") shall be withheld from the public:
  - (1) the name of the company that was the target or subject of the alleged blackmail ("the Complainant"); and
  - (2) any other information the publication of which would be likely to lead to the identification of the Complainant as the company that was the target or subject of the alleged blackmail;
2. pursuant to section 11 of the Contempt of Court Act 1981 and section 6 of the Human Rights Act 1998, the publication of any of the Identifying Information in connection with these proceedings is prohibited.
3. The provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 above shall be reviewed at the PTR, when the Court will consider whether restrictions in those terms remain appropriate at and throughout the trial.

**AND UPON** the Complainant by counsel undertaking to supply the Crown Prosecution Service ("CPS") and Ringrose Law LLP (acting for Mr Wright) with copies of the Interim Non-Disclosure Orders ("INDOs") made by Turner and Nicklin JJ in related civil proceedings

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND DIRECTED THAT**

4. Copies of this Order shall by no later than 4pm on Friday 15 May 2020 be served by the CPS on the office of the Attorney General and on PA Media (as a selected representative of the media).

5. Any person affected by paragraphs 1 or 2 of this order may apply for its variation or to set it aside, subject as follows:
- (1) Any person contemplating such an application (“A Potential Applicant”) may before making it apply to the CPS for copies of the following (“the Relevant Documents”);
    - (a) The Indictment;
    - (b) The Written Submissions;
    - (c) The INDOs.
  - (2) A Potential Applicant (other than the Attorney General) that applies for copies of any of the Relevant Documents must provide an irrevocable written undertaking to the Court to use those documents and the information contained in those documents only for the purpose of these proceedings.
  - (3) The CPS shall provide a Potential Applicant that
    - (a) applies for copies of any Relevant Documents and
    - (b) provides such an irrevocable undertaking with a copy of this Order and copies of the Relevant Documents sought, in so far as they are within the possession custody or power of the CPS.
  - (4) Any application to set aside or vary must be made in writing on at least 3 clear days’ notice to the CPS, supported by any evidence on which the applicant intends to rely. The name and contact details of the relevant person employed by the CPS are: [Crown to fill in].
  - (5) Any such application shall, unless the Court otherwise Orders, be listed for hearing at the PTR.
6. Any person affected by paragraphs 1 or 2 of this order may apply for its variation or to set it aside, subject as follows:
- (1) Any person contemplating such an application (“A Potential Applicant”) may before making it apply to the CPS for copies of the following (“the Relevant Documents”);
    - (a) The Indictment;
    - (b) The Written Submissions;
    - (c) The INDOs.
  - (2) A Potential Applicant (other than the Attorney General) that applies for copies of any of the Relevant Documents must provide an irrevocable written undertaking to the Court to use those documents and the information contained in those documents only for the purpose of these proceedings.
  - (3) The CPS shall provide a Potential Applicant that
    - (a) applies for copies of any Relevant Documents and
    - (b) provides such an irrevocable undertaking with a copy of this Order and copies of the Relevant Documents sought, in so far as they are within the possession custody or power of the CPS.
  - (4) Any application to set aside or vary must be made in writing on at least 3 clear days’ notice to the CPS, supported by any evidence on which the applicant intends to rely. The name and contact details of the relevant person employed by the CPS will be Angie Patton, Area Communications Manager, Thames and Chiltern Area Business Centre, CPS Thames and Chiltern Area, Crown Prosecution Service, Queens House, 58 Victoria Street, St Albans, AL1 3HZ. DX: 120650 St Albans 7, tel: 01189 513625, mob: 07764 212062, Email: [angie.patton@cps.gov.uk](mailto:angie.patton@cps.gov.uk)
  - (5) Any such application shall, unless the Court otherwise Orders, be listed for hearing at the PTR.

## REASONS

The Indictment contains three counts of blackmail and two counts of related public order offences. Paragraphs 1 and 2 of this order give effect to the well-established legal policy of protecting the identify of those who are or claim to be the victims of blackmail. Having reviewed the Written Submissions and considered the legal principles identified in those documents, I am satisfied that this is an appropriate order to make at this interim stage.

The question of whether, in all the circumstances of this particular case, restrictions as extensive as those contained in paragraphs 1 and 2 should remain in place at the time of trial will be reviewed at the PTR.

The remainder of the order makes provision for the Attorney General and other non-parties to be provided with relevant information to enable them to assess whether to apply to intervene to challenge or to support the imposition of such restrictions.

Mark Warby

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The Honourable Mr Justice Warby

Date: 13.05.2020