

Oral evidence hearings – update on stage one

The Fingerprint Inquiry held hearings in Glasgow between 2 June and 10 July 2009, sitting four days a week. Oral evidence was taken from 37 witnesses and a list of those whose evidence has been taken so far can be found below and in the Evidence tab of the *Hearings and Evidence* section of the website:

<http://www.thefingerprintinquiryscotland.org.uk/inquiry/227.html>

The witness statements of those who have given oral evidence to the Inquiry can also be found there, along with the statements of eight witnesses whose evidence was based on their written statement to the Inquiry.

The transcripts of the witnesses' evidence are also available on the Inquiry website in the Transcripts tab on the *Hearing and Evidence* section:

<http://www.thefingerprintinquiryscotland.org.uk/inquiry/209.221.html>

Documents associated with the evidence taken so far have been added to the Documents part of the *Hearings and Evidence* section of the website:

<http://www.thefingerprintinquiryscotland.org.uk/inquiry/206.162.html>

Where a witness referred to a document in his or her witness statement to the Inquiry the document is also listed on the page for that witness.

During the ten week break the Inquiry team has been exploring with Scottish Police Services Authority and the Crown Office developments in practice since 1997 with particular reference to the non-numeric system and working practices generally.

A comparative exercise has also been in progress since July by reference to a common set of images of finger marks Y7 and the part of Q12 attributed to Marion Ross. Primary contributions were obtained from the four main SCRO witnesses (Hugh Macpherson, Charles Stewart, Fiona McBride and Anthony McKenna) and four other fingerprint experts Ian Macleod, Geoffrey Grigg, Pat Wertheim and Arie Zeelenberg. Their respective contributions were then circulated for comment by the others who had provided primary contributions and also by a number of other practitioners.

Hearings were originally scheduled to begin again in late August, but Sir Anthony Campbell, Chairman, decided to postpone until September to allow more time for the comparative exercise to be completed.

The next Inquiry hearings will begin on Tuesday 22 September, at 10.00 am in the Maryhill Community Central Hall, Glasgow.

FIRST STAGE OF HEARINGS – ORAL WITNESSES

- Stephen Heath (POLICE)
- Kerr Reid (POLICE)
- David Ferguson (SOCO)
- David Thurley (SOCO)
- Michael Moffat (SOCO)
- Graham Hunter (SOCO)
- Robert MacNeil (SOCO)
- Leslie Gibbens (SOCO)
- John McMenemy (CROWN OFFICE WITNESS)
- Alexander McAllister (POLICE)
- Gary Gray (POLICE)
- Ian Hogg (IDENTIFICATION BUREAU)
- Mark Lees (POLICE)
- James Kerr (POLICE)
- Graeme McIntyre (POLICE)
- Alistair Morgan (POLICE)
- Collette MacKay (POLICE)
- Leslie Brown (POLICE)
- Gordon McKinlay
- Marion Scott
- Alan Stevens (POLICE)
- Stuart Wilson (SOCO)
- Stewart Carle (POLICE)
- Greg Padden (SCRO)
- Terence Foley (SCRO)
- Edward Bruce (SCRO)
- Alister Geddes (SCRO)
- Denise Greaves (CROWN OFFICE)
- Gillian Climie (CROWN OFFICE)
- Sheriff Sean Murphy (CROWN OFFICE WITNESS)
- Sheriff Frank Crowe (CROWN OFFICE WITNESS)
- Harry Bell (SCRO)
- Sheriff William Gilchrist (CROWN OFFICE)
- William Shields (POLICE)
- Andrew Rennison (FORENSIC SCIENCE REGULATOR)
- Terry Kent (HOME OFFICE)