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**CROWN OFFICE AND PROCURATOR FISCAL SERVICE**

**Bill Gilchrist**  
Deputy Crown Agent

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Your ref:  
Our ref: WAG/GL  
12 March 2004

Dear Mr Bell

**CROWN OFFICE EXPERT WITNESS LIST**

I refer to your letter of 12 February 2004 and to our recent meeting to discuss whether the Crown would be prepared to accept reports for use in court from the four fingerprint experts involved in the McKie and Asbury cases.

As you know, the Crown has some concerns about these experts being questioned about the McKie and Asbury cases, should they be required to give evidence in any subsequent criminal proceedings. The fact that civil proceedings are still pending is a further complicating factor.

I am not in a position at this stage to say whether the Crown would wish to use any of the four experts to give evidence in criminal proceedings. I would hope to be in a position to do so fairly soon, however, as a result of developments in the McKie civil action. In particular, as you know, the Justice Department has commissioned an independent expert to examine the fingerprint evidence in the McKie case. We would wish to have sight of his report before making any decision in relation to this matter.

Yours sincerely

W A Gilchrist  
Deputy Crown Agent



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE