

Claimant Witness: D. Lawrence
Second Statement of Witness
Dated: 17 October 2025
Amended: 17 December 2025

CLAIM NO. KB-2022-003316

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
KING'S BENCH DIVISION
MEDIA AND COMMUNICATIONS LIST

B E T W E E N:

BARONESS DOREEN LAWRENCE OF CLARENDON OBE

Claimant

-and-

ASSOCIATED NEWSPAPERS LIMITED

Defendant

**SECOND WITNESS STATEMENT OF
BARONESS DOREEN LAWRENCE OF CLARENDON OBE**

I, **BARONESS DOREEN LAWRENCE OF CLARENDON OBE**, of [address available to the Judge], will say as follows:

Introduction

1. I am the Mother of Stephen Lawrence who was murdered in a racist attack in London on 22 April 1993. I am a campaigner and reformer. I have devoted my life to justice for Stephen and bringing his murderers to account and a more equal, inclusive society. I currently sit in the House of Lords as a working peer.
2. I have been fighting all my life for truth and justice and to get people, institutions and those in power who think they are untouchable to do the right thing and to tell the truth.

3. I am giving this statement for the purposes of trial of my case against Associated Newspapers Limited who I refer to as "*the Defendant*" and "*The Mail*" interchangeably. This is my second witness statement and I expressly incorporate my First Witness Statement dated 24 February 2023 which I gave when *The Mail* tried to strike out my case on the grounds that I knew or could reasonably have known what they did to me earlier. I did not. How could I have known that *The Mail* were landline tapping me, blagging me, and hacking into my voicemails, monitoring my bank account and phone bills, targeting me with hidden electronic surveillance, and making corrupt payments to serving police officers to steal information about the murder investigations into Stephen's death whilst pretending to be my friend? *How could anybody know, when they were being played for a fool?*
4. I was working with *The Mail* and the journalist we trusted there, Stephen Wright, right up until the day I found out in 2022 that everything I believed to be true about Stephen Wright and *The Mail* was a lie.
5. I am making this witness statement from matters within my own knowledge or belief. Except where otherwise indicated, they are true. Where the facts and matters are not within my own knowledge, I confirm that they are true to the best of my information and belief and identify the source of my knowledge. This statement has been prepared in the same way that my First Witness Statement was, following telephone calls, messages and meetings with Imran Khan KC and Anjee Sangani. The draft was produced together and incorporates my words and instructions.

My Personal Watershed Moment

6. I have already described how and when I was alerted to what *The Mail* and Stephen Wright did to me. *The Mail* have made a big fuss about this during my case. I cannot understand why but I am going to repeat exactly what happened. I am happy to answer any questions about it at trial. I am looking forward to being in the witness box and having my voice heard.
7. I have nothing to hide and I do not understand why *The Mail* keep interrogating me about this, asking for original copies of emails, and then those same emails in a chain even though

they know exactly what they say, when they were sent and by who. It has made me very angry that they don't seem to believe me.

8. On 12 January 2022, Prince Harry sent me an email to my personal email address. In his email, Prince Harry said there was some information that had come to light and that it was something I would want to know about. I read Prince Harry's email on 18 January 2022 and wrote back to him then saying I was happy to have a visit from the people he suggested to hear what they had to say.
9. On 21 January 2022, I met with lawyers Anjee Sangani and David Sherborne at the Corinthia Hotel in London. They told me in person the information that had accidentally surfaced about me late the year before in 2021 through a conversation between two private investigators who had worked for *The Mail*. The lawyers said details were not known at that stage because the information had only just come to light through investigations instructed by a small group of people into illegal information gathering techniques deployed by *The Mail's* newspapers targeted at them. I now know Prince Harry was part of that group and the other people whose claims will be tried with mine next year in January 2026.
10. At the meeting on 21 January 2022, I was informed of the following information by Anjee and David in person. I and the investigations into Stephen's murder had been a specific target of a wide range of criminal activities aimed at secretly stealing and exploiting information from victims on the instruction of *The Mail* newspapers. I was told that one of the private investigators had been tasked to monitor my phone bills and bank accounts as well as my private communications for several years. The purpose of the tasking had been for 'internal security' conducted by the *Daily Mail* newspaper and a specific journalist there, and that the reason had been to check I was not receiving 'buy up' money from or working with other newspapers during the *Justice for Stephen Lawrence Campaign*, and also to check my political activities with left-wing groups.
11. I was not given any documents during the meeting. Anjee and David also did not disclose the names of the other people in the group I am now part of in bringing this claim and whose investigations led to the information about me surfacing. Anjee and David told me only what I have said here and in my First Witness Statement.

12. I called Imran immediately after the meeting. I asked him to meet me in person to talk about the information that had just been imparted to me and what he thought I should do.
13. I did not tell anybody else about the shocking news apart from Imran who has been my long-standing counsel since Stephen was killed. I do not trust people with information. Experience has taught me this the hard way and I have always believed leaks to be all around me. I also don't like to involve my children who I want to have as normal a life as possible away from what happened to their brother.
14. Imran and I were utterly shocked that *The Mail* had been using private investigators to secretly steal information about me and the investigation into Stephen's murder. We had trusted *The Mail* and worked with *The Mail* for 25 years. I felt like I had been taken for a fool. I still do. I don't trust them at all anymore after what they have done to me.
15. I know *The Mail* have asked me to give witness evidence about my disclosure searches around my Personal Watershed Moment. I did those disclosure searches with Imran and Anjlee just like I did for my standard disclosure searches and when we found the emails from Prince Harry telling me there was something I would want to know about. For my Personal Watershed Moment disclosure searches, we searched all my documents again for 14 days on either side of my first meeting with Anjlee and David on 21 January 2022 inclusive. We typed in all the keywords that we used for my standard disclosure searches into my two phones that I use for work and for personal matters, and into my iPhone/Text messages and my WhatsApp messages. We read and looked at everything pulled up manually between 7 January 2022 and 4 February 2022. We also looked at my two email accounts, my personal email account where we found the Prince Harry emails again and my parliament email account, although we didn't use any keywords for those searches, we scrolled through and read all the emails instead for the date range. Imran and Anjlee have told me that they have searched their emails relating to me and my case, as well as each of their iPhone/Text messages, WhatsApp messages and Signal messages (for Anjlee only) without using keywords and manually between 7 January 2022 and 4 February 2022. We didn't search anybody else's documents.
16. I wish I had more to prove what I am saying if my word is not enough. The only person I spoke to after the meeting with Anjlee and David was Imran. I am not someone who

speaks openly about my private affairs and after everything that has happened with Stephen, I think it is best to keep your counsel close to your own chest.

17. At least you can trust that.

My Case

18. On 22 March 2022, around three months after I received that first email from Prince Harry telling me there was information I needed to know about, I started proceedings and sent my Letter of Claim to *The Mail*.

19. Since that day, *The Mail* have made me fight and have denied what they have done to me. I had to fight for justice with the police for Stephen and for it to be recognised that the Metropolitan Police was institutionally racist, and my son's murder investigation failed and mishandled because of this and those in charge. I am now fighting for justice because the police also invaded my privacy to try and use information against me. They did that to me because I was brave enough to take a stand and ask questions about how my son's killers could have walked free. I feel like it is history repeating itself with this case against *The Mail*.

20. I am a victim all over again, but by people who I thought were my allies and friends. I am being made to fight when all I have ever wanted is to be told the plain truth and for justice to be done, and an apology. I am angry that I have been made to fight in the courts for over three years for things that could be so easy and simple. I am also angry that *The Mail* seem more interested in interrogating me about how I found out what they did to me, asking for original copies of the emails between me and Prince Harry, the names of the lawyers I met at The Corinthia Hotel in London on 21 January 2022, then threatening to question me at trial about all this, rather than saying sorry, investigating what it did, and getting at the truth of what happened and who knew about it and authorised such things.

21. It feels exactly how it did with the police and how they treated me.

The Four Unlawful Articles and Unlawful Article Four B

22. I am claiming for Four Unlawful Articles through which *The Mail* misused the information it stole about me and the murder investigations into Stephen's killing and a new Unlawful Article Four B. All those articles are written by a journalist called Stephen Wright who, up until the day I was told about these illegal acts that had been hidden from me, I believed was a close ally and even a friend.
23. Nobody I know received payments from Stephen Wright. I do not see how, and do not believe that, any payments made by Stephen Wright for information about me could possibly have been made to legitimate sources or people who were authorised to give Stephen Wright information about Stephen's murder investigation or about me.
24. I have spoken about the Four Unlawful Articles in my First Witness Statement and what I say here is to add to what I said in 2023 about them. I have not spoken about new Unlawful Article Four B before and which I have now added to my case.

Unlawful Article One. "Exclusive Straw orders major investigation after Mail campaign. LAWRENCE A PUBLIC INQUIRY", Daily Mail, dated 24 July 1997, by David Williams and Stephen Wright.

25. The private investigator Christine Hart has admitted that she stole my information for *The Mail* and that she blagged me, the mother of "that black boy", for information buried in this Unlawful Article. The throw away casual comment about Stephen like this was enraging to see. She has admitted that she did this for Stephen Wright who never had my mobile telephone number. All communications with Stephen Wright went through Imran who trusted him as much as me. I did not know who Christine Hart was before I started my case or that she had any involvement in Unlawful Article One, or that she had ever called me as she said she did.

Unlawful Article Two. "£320,000 FOR LAWRENCES", Daily Mail, dated 14 October 2000, exclusive by Stephen Wright

26. I believed this Unlawful Article was a leak from the police, like Unlawful Articles Three, Four and Four B. The way they were written, talking about police sources and the kind of information that they published which always looked official and like it was from the

'inside' made me believe that it had to be them. I had such a poor relationship with the police and such little trust and faith in their motives, and it was the only explanation that made the best sense. I never thought to blame Stephen Wright or the *Daily Mail*. I never thought that they could be hacking and tapping and bugging me, or that they were in bed with the corruption that made sure Stephen's killers were not found and put in jail.

27. As to the content of Unlawful Article Two, at the time when it was published, other than police officers and the people at the police Imran was negotiating with for me, the only people who were legitimately aware of the information in this article were me and Imran.

Unlawful Article Three. "Yard admits defeat in battle to charge Stephen's killers", Daily Mail, dated 5 May 2004, by Stephen Wright

28. I remember this day and this Unlawful Article well. It was not a good day. I wrote about it in my book and about how I believed the source of Unlawful Article Three had to be a leak coming from someone in the police or the CPS. There could be no other explanation as far as I could see at the time. I remember feeling like I could not even grieve the injustice of what was happening privately, even for a day, or to prepare my children for the news before the world found out.

Unlawful Article Four. "LAWRENCE SENSATION. EXCLUSIVE Ten years after the Mail accused these men of murdering black teenager Stephen Lawrence, they face re-arrest after dramatic forensic breakthrough. WILL FIVE FAVE NEW TRIAL?", Daily Mail, dated 8 November 2007, by Stephen Wright

Unlawful Article Four B. "Lawrence: The vital blunders", Daily Mail, dated 9 November 2007, by Stephen Wright

29. Again, I remember Unlawful Articles Four and Four B well and how disappointed I was to see them published. I believed they had to have come from leaks within the police as the information published was known only to a very closed circle and there were protections in place to keep it confidential for the effectiveness of the investigation. I thought the information had been leaked by the police to make themselves look good and I blamed them for it at the time.

30. It was important to keep developments like this out of the press to avoid jeopardising the investigation and the arrests of suspects, and to avoid any abuse of process argument when it came to any trial. I remember feeling angry about these Unlawful Articles and thinking the police only cared about themselves and how they looked, and not actually about Stephen and catching his killers. For me it was more proof that the police could not be trusted.
31. I did not approve, and of course was not aware, of any payment made by Stephen Wright for the information in these articles. I feel profoundly betrayed as it is the kind of information which could only have been provided by a police officer or another third party close enough to Stephen's murder investigation to be in the know about what was happening. We (Imran and I) did not give *The Mail* this information to publish.

Conclusion

32. This case and the invasions into my privacy and the stealing of information from a grieving mother and the investigation into her murdered son has been another trauma to me.
33. To discover that *The Mail* set private investigators and corrupt police officers on me to look into my phone calls and communications when I thought I was safe in my home, but that I was not safe and that the people who I thought were friends were in fact enemies, and that they were embedded with the police corruption that has caused so much harm and grief to me, has violated me and made me feel like a victim all over again.
34. I hope that I find truth for Stephen and that *The Mail* never victimise or profit from someone's grief and loss again. This is what I hope to achieve after the years of fighting in court that *The Mail* have put me through and an apology for what they have done to me.

Statement of Truth

I understand that the purpose of this witness statement is to set out matters of fact of which I have personal knowledge.

I understand that it is not my function to argue the case, either generally or on particular points, or to take the court through the documents in the case. This witness statement sets out only my personal knowledge and recollection, in my own words.

On points that I understand to be important in the case, I have stated honestly (a) how well I recall matters and (b) whether my memory has been refreshed by considering documents, if so how and when.

I have not been asked or encouraged by anyone to include in this statement anything that is not my own account, to the best of my ability and recollection, of events I witnessed or matters of which I have personal knowledge.

I believe that the facts stated in this Witness Statement are true. I understand that proceedings for contempt of court may be brought against anyone who makes, or causes to be made, a false statement in a document verified by a statement of truth without an honest belief in its truth.



Signed.....

BARONESS DOREEN LAWRENCE OF CLARENDON OBE

Amended: 17 December 2025

I hereby certify that:

1. I am the relevant legal representative within the meaning of Practice Direction 57AC.
2. I am satisfied that the purpose and proper content of trial witness statements, and proper practice in relation to their preparation, including the witness confirmation required by paragraph 4.1 of Practice Direction 57AC, have been discussed with and explained to Baroness Doreen Lawrence of Clarendon OBE.
3. I believe this trial witness statement complies with Practice Direction 57AC and paragraphs 18.1 and 18.2 of Practice Direction 32, and that it has been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Best Practice contained in the Appendix to Practice Direction 57AC.

Signature:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anjlee Sangani". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Name: Anjlee Sangani

Position: Partner

Date: 17 October 2025

APPENDIX A

List of documents referred to in my statement

No.	Document
1.	Email exchange between the Duke of Sussex and Baroness Doreen Lawrence of Clarendon OBE dated 12 January 2002 to 18 January 2022.
2.	Unlawful Article One. "Exclusive Straw orders major investigation after Mail campaign. LAWRENCE A PUBLIC INQUIRY", Daily Mail, dated 24 July 1997, by David Williams and Stephen Wright.
3.	Unlawful Article Two. "£320,000 FOR LAWRENCES", Daily Mail, dated 14 October 2000, exclusive by Stephen Wright
4.	ANL-BDL-0016. Stephen Wright cash payment re Unlawful Article 2
5.	Unlawful Article Three. "Yard admits defeat in battle to charge Stephen's killers", Daily Mail, dated 5 May 2004, by Stephen Wright
6.	Unlawful Article Four. "LAWRENCE SENSATION. EXCLUSIVE Ten years after the Mail accused these men of murdering black teenager Stephen Lawrence, they face re-arrest after dramatic forensic breakthrough. WILL FIVE FAVE NEW TRIAL?", Daily Mail, dated 8 November 2007, by Stephen Wright Unlawful Article Four B. "Lawrence: The vital blunders", Daily Mail, dated 9 November 2007, by Stephen Wright
7.	ANL-BDL-0021. Stephen Wright cash payment re Unlawful Article 4 and Unlawful Article 4B