



People for Proper Policing in North Wales

Contempt probe over North Wales Police tape

Daily Post, August 5th 2008, by Elwyn Roberts

THE Attorney General has been called in to consider issuing contempt of court proceedings after a drugs case collapsed because Sky TV broadcast footage of an arrest.

The TV company was sold the tape of the arrest of a Wrexham man by North Wales Police – before he had been put on trial. Sky then aired the film as part of its fly-on-the-wall Night Cops TV series.

The film also showed his home, and was overlaid with a commentary.

The case was dropped at Caernarfon Crown Court last month amid fears that the man would be unable to have a fair trial

Judge Merfyn Hughes QC viewed the film at the time and demanded an explanation.

Yesterday he received **a four page letter from Steve Curtis, force chief of staff, a report from the CPS, and a copy of the agreement drawn up between North Wales Police and the TV production company** involved.

The judge, sitting at Mold Crown Court, said that the question for him to decide was whether it amounted to a contempt of court.

He ruled that it was a proper case for the material gathered to be sent to the Attorney General so that she could decide whether a contempt case should be brought.

The judge added that he made no criticism of any individuals although it was recognised that errors were made and lessons would no doubt be learned.

A North Wales Police spokesman said: *"The case in question was one of a number of arrests made, and incidents filmed by the same company over a period of weeks. All of the arrests made, in all other cases, have proceeded without problem. Given that the matter has been referred to the Attorney General, we would not wish to make further comment at this time."*

The PPP comments This looks like just another result of Brunstrom's and his colleagues craving for publicity. The PPP have witnessed and commented on a catalogue of abusive (Of both individuals and police powers), often illegal, usually disingenuous and pointless media opportunities. How much were NWPF paid to pervert the course of justice!?

The Daily Post have reported on and are aware of all these. In order or severity they are :- the Press conference and the deceased motor cyclist, the BBC 'documentary' The Chief' Character assassination of sitting MPs, ditto of an individual in the Bill Shaw speeding case, YouTube videos of.... violent entry into (the wrong) premises in Rhyl and Anglesey & Brunstrom being tasered by his own officers AND the release of confidential information about a sex abuse victim.

In all these cases lessons were not learnt or TAUGHT by those responsible from the Home Office via the judiciary, the NWPA & the IPCC.

The man is a loose cannon of the most dangerous kind and his legacy will live with us for years after he leaves.

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