

21 May 2005

THE STATE VERUS JANE BRYANT & ANGELA KENNEDY

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1. THE POLICE RAID

Tuesday 26 April 2005

My fourteen year old son Ben suffers from the neurological disease ME/CFS, World Health Organisation classification ICD-10 G93.3 and has done since the age of ten.. It has ruined his life and he has been unable to attend the school that he loves on a regular basis for nigh on four years. Our lives have been ruined by this disease.

On the morning of Tuesday 26 April I got up at around 8.30 am. My son, who is ill from ME/CFS, did the same, slowly and gently as he is ill. At around 9.00 am the door bell of our flat rang most forcefully. I thought it was possibly the postman and went to answer the door in my pyjamas/night wear. On my doorstep were four police officers who demanded entry – three men and one woman. I was really shocked and taken aback. I could not understand what these officers wanted with me.

I brought the police into my home as they demanded, into the sitting room, and asked what all this was about. The spokesperson of the four police officers, who subsequently transpired to be TDC MacDonald, said that they had come to arrest me and take me down to Southall Police Station. I was literally stunned. This is 9.00 am in the morning, with my ill son in his room and both of us in our pyjamas. The police attitude was threatening and frightening.

I asked “Arrest me, what for?” MacDonald said that they had come to arrest me for harassment. “Harassment? Harassment of whom?” I asked.

“Jane Colby of TYMES Trust and others” replied MacDonald.

“What is all this about? What others? ” I asked.

“Many others” replied MacDonald “including international complaints. Please come with us now, I have come to arrest you and take you down to the police station immediately. ”

I replied that this was outrageous. That I had recently been the victim of harassment myself, Crime No. 2522138. MacDonald stated that they were aware of this case and that he had talked to Detective Bishop last week.

I asked the officers was it really necessary to have FOUR of them come to arrest a woman who lives with her sick child? How intimidating and upsetting this was? How it could serve to compromise the already fragile health of my child? The woman answered that it was necessary for her to be there. From the three men, answer came there none.

I told the officers that I wanted to phone my solicitor right now. They refused to allow me to do this and said that I could call my solicitor down at the police station. I then pointed out that I could not leave my sick son on his own. The woman officer asked if I could not get a friend round to look after him. I demurred. I had no friend to look after my son at such short notice and also, the child suffers from a neurological disease and there was no way that I could leave him at that time! The

police were very, very keen that I come with them straightaway and clearly not at all pleased that Ben was with me and that this posed difficulties for them in regard to their attempt to remove me immediately from my home.

MacDonald then instructed the other uniformed male officer to go and look for Ben, I guess to check out that he was at home with me as I had stated. I gestured down the hall towards Ben's bedroom, where I thought he was. Ben told me later that he did not realise the police were in the flat at this stage and that he was in the bathroom having a wash and so on. The bathroom door was closed but is never locked. The policeman started to open the bathroom door. Ben told him that he was in the bathroom and closed the door. The policeman told Ben to get dressed and get his clothes on. Ben said OK and shut the door again. The policeman then tried to force the bathroom door open (it is a sliding door). Ben put his hand there to stop the policeman trying to force his way into the bathroom and said that he was getting dressed. After a few seconds, the policeman let go of the door and Ben was able to close the door, wash and get his clothes on. Ben is a fourteen year old child suffering from a very serious neurological disease. How DARE the police behave like this towards a sick child?

The police were very insistent that I leave my home now and wished to arrest me right then and there. I refused to go down to the police station with the officers and leave my sick child on his own. The police said that possibly they could be compassionate (this was a word that they kept on using) and that I could attend the police station tomorrow or the next when they would arrest me. They would have to see.

The three male police officers left the sitting room and went into my bedroom that also doubles as my office, without my permission. I was left in the sitting room with the woman police officer. She told me that the officers were being compassionate (all four of them against a woman and her sick child). When I realised that the police had gone into my bedroom without my permission, I went in there and asked them what they thought that they were doing? They answered that they had to make a call. Meanwhile they were looking around my office/bedroom.

The police said that they would have to take my computer and they needed my permission to do it. I asked what would happen if I did not give my permission? MacDonald stated that if I refused to give this permission, they would call Social Services to come and look after my child, arrest me and remove me from my home immediately and take my computer anyway. This was really, really nasty threatening stuff.

I asked the police when I could have my computer back as I needed it for work. They replied that they did not know. That it would be up to the Crown Prosecution Service as to whether they decided to prosecute me or not, then they would see. I asked if I could please copy my Contacts File from my computer as I could not earn a living without it. MacDonald agreed but cautioned me in a threatening manner not to wipe anything. I asked Ben to help me do this as I don't have the technical skills for this action. Ben helped with all four officers piled into my bedroom watching.

I was shaking and scared. Ben too. I asked how the police could behave in this way to a Mother and her sick child? Had they no concept of how upsetting and frightening

this was, especially for Ben, with four police officers piling into my flat? The woman police officer said that I should not talk about this as it might upset Ben. Not talk about this? With four police officers in my flat threatening to take me away? With my sick child in the very room?

Eventually MacDonald agreed that I could attend Southall Police Station with my solicitor when proper arrangements had been made for Ben. He left me his name, the other officer's name (I presume the one in uniform, not sure.) The details that he wrote down for me were his own name, TDC MacDonald and DS Bunkall, Southall CID, 0208 346 2008.

Ben unplugged my computer. The fat police officer in civilian clothes, DS Bunkall took it.

MacDonald made me sign the note in his book that stated I had agreed voluntarily that they could take away my computer.

The police then left. I telephoned James Saunders, the One Click solicitor. This has been a horrible experience for both me and Ben.

1.1 The Arrest Warrant

When the police raided my home on Tuesday 26th April, they did not display a warrant for my arrest. I was SO SHOCKED by what was happening that I did not think to ask to see it.

When the police left my home, the officers should have left a copy of the arrest warrant with me. They did no such thing. This begs the question – did the Southall police actually have a warrant for my arrest?

1.2 The Computer Seizure

As previously stated, TCD MacDonald **forced** me to sign that piece of paper that stated that I had given the police my computer voluntarily. MacDonald stated that if I refused to give this permission, they would call Social Services to come and look after my child, arrest me and remove me from my home immediately and take my computer anyway. My solicitors have stated that my signature was thus obtained under duress.

2. VISIT TO THE SOLICITORS

As soon as the police had left, shaking and crying and with my ill son in a terrible state, I telephoned our solicitors who had helped to provide One Click with sound counsel over what we could and could not publish in the past. I was advised to go to their offices straight away. I did so. Having never been involved in anything like this before as a law abiding citizen entirely, I felt that I needed all the help that I could get.

It is perhaps just a coincidence, but at that time and on that day, **ALL** my communication facilities went down. I could make no telephone calls on my land line and receive none. The line was dead and my son could not get internet access through his computer. All communication had to be carried out by mobile phone. This went on for most of the day.

Our solicitor was very shocked over the heavy handedness of the police (FOUR officers against a Mother whom they clearly knew full well lived on her own with her sick child, arriving in the early hours of the morning) and advised me of next steps. He was the solicitor destined to accompany me at Southall police station for my arrest and interview tomorrow.

3. THE ARREST

Wednesday 27th April.

On Wednesday 27th April, I attended Southall police station at 11.00am with my solicitor.

It was horrible. I was booked in by the Custody Sergeant. I was charged under the Harassment Act of harassing Jane Colby of the TYMES Trust charity. All my belongings were taken from me such as my handbag and briefcase and were locked into the Property Store. TDC MacDonald then took me to be fingerprinted. They take your fingerprints, your palm prints and prints of the sides of your hands. I was then taken to another room to have my DNA taken and my photograph. This entire process is utterly demeaning. This now means that simply because I have exercised free speech and published incontrovertible evidence and placed it in the public domain, all these personal details are now held by the police about me for life. This I consider to be an invasion of my Civil Liberties. I was made to feel like the scum of the earth, a criminal, simply because I run a pressure group.

4. DISCLOSURE.

My solicitor then went into a private room with TCD MacDonald and obtained the Disclosure document whilst. I was left to sit outside in the Custody Suite on a bench

I **knew** that I had done nothing wrong. I could not understand why the police were doing all this to me. I had been racking my brains all this time since the police raid to think of a reason. The best that I could come up with was that perhaps someone assuming my identity out on the internet had been sending death threats or threatening physical violence to these people, and hence the police interest? On that basis, I knew that I would be fine. The police had my computer and even the most cursory examination of it would show that I had not been involved in any such thing. That Angela Kennedy and I run a pressure group that interfaces with government, the medical establishment, health officials and the media and all that Angela Kennedy and I had been trying to do was to posit the bio medical case for ME/CFS, for which there is copious evidence that is consistently ignored by the psychiatric lobby.

My solicitor then returned with the Disclosure document that is supposed to be the worst points and issues that the police have against the person who has been charged.

(See Disclosure document attached). It was risible. All it contained was information that One Click had published and placed **in the public domain on the website** in relation to the most legitimate criticisms of Colby's charity, TYMES Trust. Criticisms that were in the public interest to place in the public domain. We had extremely legitimately criticised her actions and those of other charities and individuals. We had published incontrovertible evidence. I could not believe that this was the entire basis of the police case! I was literally stunned. My solicitor also told me that the Countess of Mar, a Patron of the MERGE charity, had also laid a separate complaint against One Click with the Palace of Westminster Police, So17. (More of this anon.)

What I also found so surprising is that when those four intimidating and threatening police officers had barrelled through my front door yesterday displaying no arrest warrant, they had said that they had received MANY complaints, including international complaints against One Click. And yet here on the table was just ONE complaint from Colby of TYMES Trust. There were no Mar details in regard to the MERGE charity complaint or any others given at this time.

My solicitor said that the so called evidence was so flimsy that it was unlikely that the Crown Prosecution Service would proceed with this case. It was explained that I had been charged under the new Harassment law that was enacted – I believe in the late 1990s – for stalking and that now, this law is now being used for purposes for which in fact it was not designed. Our solicitor stated that he would certainly like the CPS to proceed with this case as what has been done is just so outrageous and it would open up many cans of ME/CFS worms.

5. THE INTERVIEW

My solicitor and I then went into the interview room with TDC MacDonald, whereupon we were joined by DS Bunkall, MacDonald's boss. Bunkall is the man who seized my computer from my home and took it under duress.

5.1 The Police Case

At the start, Bunkall confessed that using the Harassment law in the way that they were doing against me was treading a fine line.

MacDonald then proceeded to read Colby's statement that was SIX PAGES LONG! Apparently a statement of this length is very unusual. The first three pages of Colby's statement were all about her and TYMES Trust.

5.2 My Response

I then began the ME/CFS community PR. I talked at length about how ME/CFS was considered by the psychiatrists/psychologists to be a somatisation disorder/mental illness by the one on the one hand and by the neurologists/endocrinologists to be a bio medical illness on the other, with the patients caught in the middle between these two warring doctor camps.

I talked about the World Health Organisation classification. I talked about Ben and how his ME had developed. About how I had determined back in the dim darks that if I could just get a formidable education on ME/CFS, I would find a way out of this for my son.

I talked about CBT/GET and how it had damaged so many. That when I realised that there was no way out of this, I determined to do something about the stigma of ME and the sway that the psychiatric lobby has over this bio medical disease. I talked about the PACE & FINE trials, about the waste of £11.1m of taxpayer's money.

I talked about the setting up of One Click as a political pressure group, firstly on Yahoo and then the website. I talked about how it had developed into a pressure group that interfaced with government, the medical establishment, public health officials, the media and so on. That many patients couldn't do this kind of work because they were so ill and did not have my professional background. I mentioned Angela Kennedy, the One Click co-director joining me on One Click and her sociology lecturer skills that were so excellent for the campaign.

I talked about how Colby of TYMES Trust had approached me to do pro bono PR for her charity. That I had helped her a great deal and obtained much personal publicity for her. That I was grateful to her for her help with Ben and the school. That I used to speak to her on a daily basis. I went through the Goudsmit email scenario and the BPS official inquiry. (There is more on this issue in the separate One Click document). I gave all the details of One Click, the residents of over fifty countries that read the website, the excellent resource and so on. I said that the situation with Colby was PURELY POLITICAL. That this was a political issue and no other.

It would take me far too long to write down here all that I said and covered. I was at pains to point out that as the CEO of a national charity, Colby was a public figure. That if she performed wrong actions that were not in the best interests of her members and indeed all ME/CFS patients, it was perfectly legitimate to criticise her actions. That I had not in any way threatened to harm her and that I was perfectly within my rights to criticise her actions as I was and am the director of a pressure group that interfaces with the government, the medical establishment etc. That in the UK I thought that we were supposed to enjoy free speech.

The police then asked, did I not think that I should have **rephrased** certain sentences that I had written about Colby's charity! My response was that I was not aware that the police had gone into the free speech censorship business and did they now have new editorial qualifications? That on this basis, were they planning to arrest the respective Editors of The Sun, The News of the World and the Mail? Were they also planning to arrest thousands of ME/CFS advocates from right around the world?

Bunkall then said that he thought this interview was at an end. I demurred and stated that I want put on the tape the fact that I needed to have my computer back in order to earn a living and put bread on the table for my family. I asked when it would be returned and if not in the immediate future, could I please copy the My Documents folder on my computer in the presence of the police? Bunkall said that the police would think about it.

Bunkall stated that the next step would be for the police to arrest and interview the One Click co-director, Angela Kennedy. It was arranged that this would be done at Chingford police station on Tuesday 3rd May at 11.00 am or 12.00am, time to be confirmed. TDC MacDonald wrote this down in his diary. It was necessary for Angela to be interviewed at a police station near to her home rather than Southall police station due to the fact that she cannot leave her severely ill daughter for any length of time.

I then went back to the Custody desk where I was bailed to return to the police station on the 17th May.

Meanwhile, my sick son was in bits at home waiting for me to return.

6. ANGELA KENNEDY'S IMPENDING ARREST

During the Thursday, Friday and Monday subsequent to my arrest, our solicitor telephoned Southall police many times to get the actual time of Angela's arrest and interview confirmed at her local police station for Tuesday 3rd May. When TDC MacDonald finally made himself telephonically available, he cancelled this appointment.

Our solicitor wrote to us thus: "TDC McDonald has thoroughly messed Angela and I around by changing his mind and making himself unavailable for today's appointment. He says that since the date had not been fully confirmed, he has made other plans for today. I had of course attempted to contact him on many occasions and I am not sure how I was meant to confirm the date and time without him being available to speak to! He is now going to call me back with a new date for Angela's interview. Angela is obviously upset and angry about this as she has made plans for child care and also she is clearly concerned about her daughter's health. I will let TDC McDonald know how inconvenient this is and how it actually affects Angela and her daughter. This is clearly his mistake."

People should understand just how difficult it is to care for a severely affected ME/CFS child. Angela had made all the child care arrangements for this day. The police let us down badly.

7. THE ENDLESS POLICE STONEWALLING

And so the appallingly destructive and upsetting run around by the police began. They refused to answer calls from our solicitor, they refused to make arrangements. Our solicitor faxed the police on the 4th May and wrote:

"I write in relation to the above named client who awaits an arranged interview date in respect of an allegation of harassment.

Despite numerous calls to your office, nobody has returned my call. As you are aware, Angela Kennedy and Jane Bryant are mothers of very ill children which makes it extremely difficult for them to make plans for child-care at short notice. The position relating to Tuesday 3 May was I thought made clear when I attended

Southall police station on 27 April in that Angela Kennedy would be interviewed on 3 May and the case could be referred to the Crown Prosecution Service the same day and therefore should there be a decision to take no further action in this case, Mrs Bryant's computer could be returned to her, as I remember you saying yourself, Wednesday 4 May. I was unable to contact you or your colleague DS Bunkall on Thursday or Friday to confirm the station and time.

Both ladies have these proceedings hanging over their heads and the delay causes considerable strain on their children's health. As I am sure you will understand, the illness is greatly exacerbated by stress, which this is causing. In addition to this, Mrs Bryant is reliant upon her computer to make a living for her and her child. As she made extremely clear at the police station on 27 April, without documents on the computer, she is unable to work. It was said then that it might be possible for her to attend the police station and obtain a copy of the documents she requires. Nobody has contacted her and she still cannot work.

I do not mean to 'tell you what to do' but I must impress on you how much the delay is affecting both ladies and their children." (See copy of fax attached.)

The police **knew** that without my computer and access to my files, I could neither earn my living, prepare my defence, nor carry out any of the activities planned for ME Awareness Week and ME Awareness Day on May 12. One must wonder if this was in part their objective and plan.

Despite our solicitor trying to contact the police again and again and again, they refused to respond. All this stress was horrendous for our sick children and not much fun for us either.

Our solicitor at this time was also trying to make contact with DS Bunkall and PC Clark to ascertain precisely what was happening with the complaint laid against us by the Countess of Mar with the Westminster police. I was really scared that the Westminster police would be bowling through my front door at any time to arrest me for similar risible charges as those put forward by Jane Colby of the TYMES Trust charity.

Two weeks passed whilst we sweated and our children suffered terribly. On the 8th May, I wrote to our solicitors: "*We have no knowledge of what the charges are against us proffered by the Westminster Police consist of at this time. We have solicitors telling us that phone calls go unanswered and as two weeks move in, we are no further in our endeavours.*"

You cannot even begin to imagine the stress that Angela and I had put upon us by the police this time.

Angela and I became desperate by this stage and so we decided to take matters into our own hands.

On the Wednesday, 11th May, Angela faxed both Borough Commanders together with a separate fax to DS Bunkall and PC Clark, requesting that the Borough Commander intervene URGENTLY on her behalf and permit for this wretched arrest

and interview to take place at her local police station, as previously agreed. (See Angela's fax to Southall Borough Commander attached).

Subsequent to Angela's fax to the Borough Commander, we started to get results. Finally DS Bunkall agreed that yes, Angela could be arrested in Chingford after all, but refused to set a date.

8. THE COUNTESS OF MAR ALLEGATIONS

Whilst all this was going on, I had STILL not been told what was happening with the Countess of Mar complaint, laid with the Westminster police and was really scared that another police raid would be carried out.

After repeated request, our solicitors finally ascertained that Mar had laid her complaint with a very specialised branch of the police, the Palace of Westminster Police. See the URL for this mob here. <http://www.met.police.uk/so/so17.htm> This is the Palace of Westminster Special Operations 17. This lot are so cloak and dagger that they do not even have a telephone number.

Eventually our solicitor managed to speak to PC Gary Baker of the Palace of Westminster Police, handling Mar's allegations.

In regard to the allegations laid by the Countess of Mar and her charity MERGE, here is what our solicitor wrote to me:

"As discussed, I confirm the outcome of the telephone conversation I had with PC Gary Baker at the Palace of Westminster on 13 May 2005.

I was given his details by PC Clarke of Southall police. PC Clark was under the impression that 'Westminster police' were investigating an allegation made by the Countess of Mar regarding 'harassment'. I called PC Baker who told me that approximately three weeks previously, the Countess had spoken to officials of the Houses of Parliament and asked them to look into an allegation of harassment by Jane Bryant via the 'one-click group' towards the 'Merge' charity. She is a patron of the charity and therefore felt that what had been said was directed at her. PC Baker looked into the allegation and viewed the web site containing references to the Merge charity. He said that he had decided that at this stage, since no direct e-mails had been sent to the Countess and there had been no formal 'harassment' according to law, what had been put on the web site did not constitute an offence under criminal law. He said that he intended to inform the Countess of this decision and advise her that if she wished to take the matter any further, she should consider an action for defamation, which is a civil action rather than criminal. This would not involve the police and whether there had been defamatory quotes on the site would need to be construed by the civil courts.

PC Baker said that unless anything else came to light which constituted a criminal offence, he would not be pursuing the allegation."

Mar has put us through absolute hell with no proper cause.

9. THE POLICE BACK DOWN

9.1 Monday, 16th May

With my attendance at Southall police station looming for bail on the 17th May, with STILL no end of this matter in sight, no set date for Angela's arrest and interview, no permission from the police for me to be able to copy my files from my computer to prepare my defence and earn my living and certainly no prospect of the Southall police returning my computer to me any time soon, I too decided to take matters into my own hands. To this end, I faxed the Borough Commander of the Southall police on Monday 16th May. (See fax attached.) Nothing substantive occurred.

9.2 Tuesday, 17th May

I woke up feeling sick, knowing that I was going to have to attend Southall police station for bail that afternoon at 4.00pm. The solicitors phoned and said that they would attempt to get hold of DS Bunkall when he got in at 2.00pm to see if I could either get permission to copy my files from my computer or have it returned to me.

Just as I am about to set off for Southall police station at 3.00pm ish, I got a call from the solicitors. They had been informed that the police have dropped all charges and that the Crown Prosecution Service has decided that there is no case to answer since the matter is purely political and not criminal. That Angela is not to be arrested and interviewed after all and that I can go and collect my computer. The solicitor said that DS Bunkall was not best pleased that the CPS had decided not to prosecute us.

I sat down on my bed, hugged my child and cried and cried with sheer relief. The strain on me and my son over all this business has been THAT BAD.

I duly presented myself at Southall police station to collect my computer. DS Bunkall was falling over himself to be pleasant. This is the man who has harassed, intimidated and threatened me. I couldn't even look at him. I collected my computer and went home.

10. CONCLUSION

The foregoing has been a ghastly experience for Angela Kennedy, myself and our sick children. It is known that with all serious illnesses such as Cancer, Aids and Leukaemia just to name but three, stress is contra indicated. What these people have done to us has further seriously compromised the already fragile health of our children.

The police have been used as a tool to harass us. One side in this debate is using the police most inappropriately. This situation has got absolutely NOTHING to do with criminal law. The police have been used by a group of people headed by Jane Colby of the TYMES Trust charity and the Countess of Mar, Patron of the MERGE charity for their own ends and to serve their own personal interests whom we have legitimately politically criticised in the past for their actions that serve to damage ME/CFS patients.

And WHO ARE all these people who have laid complaints against us? Are they all part of the sinister campaign already undertaken by known individuals to attempt to discredit One Click and get us shut down? Our solicitor says that if this matter had gone to court, we would have been entitled to full disclosure. The fact that it hasn't means that we need to find other means to get the police to give us the information.

James Saunders has suggested that we adopt the following strategy. Next week, I shall write to Commander Bridger of the Southall police asking him on what basis were we originally visited and what happened to make us no longer a criminal threat. I shall ask for a copy of that imaginary arrest warrant. I shall also ask why even though we have been relentlessly harassed, abused and threatened, have reported this to the police that resulted in Crime No. No. 2522138, handled by Detective Mark Bishop, nothing was done. That instead, I receive a visit from four police officers who attempt to harass me, intimidate me and terrify my sick son, whilst failing to show me an arrest warrant. That it would seem to me that different people who raise different issues get treated very differently indeed by the police.

Upon receipt of a doubtless bland and mendacious answer from the police, James Saunders suggests that I write again, demanding far more details of the complaint. When the police block this as they surely will, James then hopes that we can get a journalist that covers criminal matters to cover the criminal aspect of this story and force the police to provide disclosure.

How is it that charities, Jane Colby and the Countess of Mar and other individuals such as Dr. Charles Shepherd (a charity trustee) and doubtless the psychiatric lobby can use massively undue influence to persecute two Mothers with sick children who run a pressure group? What is GOING ON here?

Rosie, whatever you can do to help us to tell our story in the media would be much appreciated.

Jane Bryant
21 May 2005

11. APPENDICES

11.1 Disclosure Re Jane Bryant

(1) Allegation of harassment ranging from 1/11/04-03/04/05, against Jane Colby of Tymes Trust.

(2) This has been done via emails with Jane Bryants personal email addresses as well as coming via The One Click Group, of which Jane Bryant is a co-director. The other director being Angela Kennedy. Angela Kennedy's part in this investigation is as of yet, unknown.

(3) Concerns in emails are threats such as "Please stand up and be counted or take the rap in public" and "The more this goes on, the worse it will get!" and "or live with the consequences!"

(4) Personal attacks on Jane Bryant include her being called "an ex wheelchair judas"

(5) The email from The One Click Group on 22/3/05, with the above comment, tells viewers to the webpage to read up on Jane Colby of Tymes Trust, the british MEICFS charity ex wheelchair Judas.

(6) Through alleged mistruths and misrepresentations of the work of Jane Colby and Tymes Trust, through The One Click Group, then Jane Colby has been sent challenging emails from around the world. This has been after comments from Jane Bryant telling Jane Colby that "thousands of people will now read this from over 40 countries worldwide"

11.2 Solicitor Fax to Southall Police

TDC McDonald
CID Southall police station

BY FAX ONLY
0208 246 1090

Our ref : jmb/
Your ref :

4 May 2005

Dear Mr McDonald

Angela Kennedy

I write in relation to the above named client who awaits an arranged interview date in respect of an allegation of harassment.

Despite numerous calls to your office, nobody has returned my call. As you are aware, Angela Kennedy and Jane Bryant are mothers of very ill children which makes it extremely difficult for them to make plans for child-care at short notice. The position relating to Tuesday 3 May was I thought made clear when I attended Southall police station on 27 April in that Angela Kennedy would be interviewed on 3 May and the case could be referred to the Crown Prosecution Service the same day and therefore should there be a decision to take no further action in this case, Mrs Bryant's computer could be returned to her, as I remember you saying yourself, Wednesday 4 May. I was unable to contact you or your colleague DS Bunkall on Thursday or Friday to confirm the station and time.

Both ladies have these proceedings hanging over their heads and the delay causes considerable strain on their children's health. As I am sure you will understand, the illness is greatly exacerbated by stress, which this is causing. In addition to this, Mrs Bryant is reliant upon her computer to make a living for her and her child. As she made extremely clear at the police station on 27 April, without documents on the computer, she is unable to work. It was said then that it might be possible for her to attend the police station and obtain a copy of the documents she requires. Nobody has contacted her and she still cannot work.

I do not mean to 'tell you what to do' but I must impress on you how much the delay is affecting both ladies and their children.

Please contact me upon receipt of this letter with a date, time and police station for the interview of Angela Kennedy in order that this matter can come to a swift conclusion.

Yours sincerely

Julia Bainbridge
FOR SAUNDERS SOLICITORS LLP

11.3 Angela Kennedy's Fax to Southall Police Borough Commander

FOR THE URGENT ATTENTION OF:

**Martin Bridger,
Borough Commander
London Borough of Ealing**

Dear Sir,

I am writing to you to request your URGENT intervention on my behalf.

I am the mother and carer of a seriously affected and profoundly disabled child sufferer of the neurological disease Myalgic Encephalomyelitis (also known as chronic fatigue syndrome). I am also a sociology lecturer. Together with my colleague, Jane Bryant, another mother of an ME/CFS child sufferer, I run a web-based political pressure group, the One Click Group, advocating for ME/CFS sufferers' rights.

As part of our political campaigns, we have had cause to make political criticisms of the conduct of charities and their representatives on our website. Subsequent to this we have both now been accused of 'harassment' by one of the charity representatives we have criticised, and on Tuesday, 26th April 2005, Jane Bryant was subject to a forced police visit, and I am also to be arrested. We have also been informed that Westminster Police may be arresting and interviewing us also.

I was informed on Thursday 5 May, 2005, that I am now required to attend at SOUTHALL police station, which is TWENTY THREE miles from my home, on Friday 13th May, 2005. I am unable to attend Southall, and my solicitor has been trying to appraise DS Bunkall of this, by fax and phone, since 4th May, without success.

My teenage daughter is seriously ill and profoundly disabled by her illness, and I am her ONLY carer. She needs specialised care (with a complex medication regime) which at present only I can deliver. She is frequently in uncontrollable pain, and can do very little for herself, because of muscle weakness, and because any physical exertion will bring on physical collapse due to severe drops in blood pressure. THESE ARE CARDINAL FEATURES OF HER NEUROLOGICAL ILLNESS. If left without my care for more than a couple of hours she will be placed at serious risk.

Because of the events of the last two weeks, she is already in severe relapse. If I am forced to attend Southall, because it is so far away from where I live, SHE WILL BE PLACED AT SERIOUS RISK.

I am not resisting arrest in any way. But I am UNABLE TO ATTEND SOUTHALL due to my need to care for my seriously ill and my profoundly disabled daughter.

Furthermore, I suffer from asthma, which in the past couple of weeks has been exacerbated by hay fever, and indeed I have had two bad asthma attacks in the

previous week alone. My own health is likely to be put in jeopardy if I am forced into attending Southall police station, as this will place me under extreme stress.

I understand that the complainant in the case lives in Essex. Therefore I presume she would have made her complaint there. I understand that, if Jane Bryant lived in Scotland, there would be no requirement for her to attend an Essex Police station for charges of harassment which has currently been demonstrated to be nebulous at best. The complaint would be dealt with by the police locally. I am therefore extremely concerned that DS Bunkall has seen fit to issue a requirement that I attend a police station many miles from my home, ESPECIALLY as he IS fully aware of the specific and very difficult circumstances affecting me and my family. This situation is made even more serious by the fact that I will be required to attend a police station more than once, e.g. for bail, and may yet be arrested by Westminster police at some time in the future.

My solicitor has been trying to get in contact by fax and phone with DS Bunkall to appraise him of the situation, since Thursday, 5th April, without success until today. DS Bunkall has been made fully aware of my daughter's condition and my need to care for her by my colleague Jane Bryant during her interview, and by my solicitor.

In light of these appalling circumstances, I am pleading with you to ensure that I am investigated, arrested, interviewed and bailed at my local police station, Chingford, INSTEAD of at Southall or Westminster. As my arrest and the requirement to attend at Southall is imminent, I am making a plea for your urgent intervention to ensure that my own and, most importantly, my child's health is not compromised.

As you will appreciate, the 'crime' I am being investigated for is extremely uncertain at this time. Both Jane Bryant and myself are law-abiding citizens with responsible professional lives, and most importantly we are two mothers caring for seriously ill children, both children who are currently very traumatized by the situation as it is. I am confident that the police will not want to be part of any actions that exacerbates this already appalling situation, and that steps will be taken promptly to ensure the above intervention is undertaken.

I have warned DS Bunkall/PC Clark by fax that if the behaviour of the police puts my daughter at further risk, I will immediately make a formal complaint against everyone personally involved, and will involve the media.

I will be very grateful for your urgent action. I have also written to the Borough Commander for Waltham Forest, George Clark, asking for his intervention.

Yours faithfully

Angela Kennedy

11.4 Jane Bryant's Fax to Southall Police Borough Commander

Fax

To: Mr. Martin Bridger, Borough Commander.

Fax No: 0208 246 9460

Date: 16 May 2005

No. of Pages: Two

Cc: Saunders & Co., Solicitors

Dear Commander Bridger

I am the Mother of a seriously ill child who suffers from the neurological brain disease Myalgic Encephalomyelitis, also known as Chronic Fatigue Syndrome.

I am also a Public Relations Consultant. Together with my colleague, Angela Kennedy, another mother of an ME/CFS child sufferer, I run a web-based political pressure group, the One Click Group, advocating for ME/CFS sufferers' rights.

As part of our political campaigns, we have had cause to make political criticisms of the conduct of charities and their representatives on our website. Subsequent to this we have both now been accused of 'harassment', by one of the charity representatives we have criticised.

On Tuesday, 26th April 2005, **FOUR** of your police officers, two wearing bullet proof vests, insisted on gaining entry to my home at approximately 9.00 am in the morning. My son and I were both still in our night clothes. My son is seriously ill. Your four officers insisted on arresting me then and there and wanted to forcibly remove me immediately from my home and take me to Southall police station. All of this was done whilst my very ill son was at his home in his pyjamas, as was I. The officers subsequently realised that they could not remove me from my home in this fashion because of my need to care for my very sick son. The officers then seized my computer that I need to have in order to work and to be able to put bread on the table for my family.

On Wednesday 27th April, I attended Southall police station with my solicitor where I was arrested on "harassment" charges and formally interviewed. Even DS Bunkall stated at interview that using the harassment law in this way was treading a very fine line.

Meanwhile weeks have passed without my being allowed to either access my computer to make copies of my files or have my computer returned to me. This unconscionable waiting time has occurred because of the delay over arresting and interviewing my colleague Angela Kennedy (a situation I understand you are aware of), despite many calls and faxes from the solicitor who is acting for both of us to ask the police to expedite this matter and sort it out. Angela Kennedy has faxed DS Bunkall this weekend saying she is willing to be interviewed urgently at her local police station. Without access to my computer, I am prevented from earning a living. The event on Tuesday 26 April and all that has transpired since has caused my son to go into serious neurological relapse.

I am due to attend Southall police station on Tuesday 17th May at 4.00 pm for bail. I would respectfully please ask by this time for Angela Kennedy's interview to have taken place and the decision made by the CPS as to whether to prosecute us or not in relation to these charges. At that time at 4.00 pm on Tuesday 17th May when I have to attend Southall police station, I would ask please for either my computer to be returned to me or for me to be given the facility to copy my files. Surely this matter has now gone on for long enough?

I am confident that the police will not want to be part of any actions that exacerbate this already appalling situation and that steps will be taken promptly to ensure the above intervention is undertaken. If the behaviour of the police puts my son at further risk and prevents me from earning my living, I will immediately make a formal complaint against everyone personally involved, and will involve the media.

As I am sure you are aware, any stress on a child who is suffering from a chronic illness such as cancer, or leukaemia or indeed the neurological disease ME/CFS defined as such by the World Health Organisation, is utterly contra indicated. What has been done to my child in this regard by the police, what has transpired and the continued refusal by the police to either allow me to have my computer back or copy my files so that I can earn a living to support us down these weeks is something that none of us will ever forget.

I would ask you please Mr. Bridger in all humanity to sort this situation out and I would be most grateful if you could intervene on our behalf with your officers DS Bunkall and PC Clark so that this Kafkaesque nightmare can be brought to a speedy conclusion.

Yours sincerely

Jane Bryant