

FACULTY OF FORENSIC & LEGAL MEDICINE

of the Royal College of Physicians, London

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Thursday, 15 April 2009

Richard Gill
Coroners Training Manager
Ministry of Justice
Coroners Unit
Room 2.40
102 Petty France
London
SW1H 9AJ

Dear Sir,

Re: Coroners and Inquests - A Guide

The Faculty of Forensic and Legal Medicine welcomes the opportunity to respond to the above consultation paper. The faculty was established in 2005 by the Royal College of Physicians of London and has been founded to achieve the following objectives:

- To promote for the public benefit the advancement of education and knowledge in the field of forensic and legal medicine.
- To develop and maintain for the public benefit the good practice of forensic and legal medicine by ensuring the highest professional standards of competence and ethical integrity.

The faculty includes three different professional groups:

- Forensic physicians
- Medically qualified coroners
- Medico-legal advisers to the medical defence organisations

I have been asked to submit observations on this draft document on behalf of the Faculty of Forensic and Legal Medicine where specific comment has been made by one of our members, Dr Roy N Palmer, HM Coroner, Southern District of London.

For ease of use, I attach a 'tracked' version of the document.

Please let me know if any further clarification is required.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. George M. Fernie'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large loop at the end.

DR C GEORGE M FERNIE
LLB, MBChB, MPhil, FFFLM, FRCGP, DFM