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Dear Mr Odumosu

MY LETTER TO LORD FALCONER, THE LORD CHANCELLOR

Thank you for your letter dated 24 June 2004. We have of course spoken on the telephone since then. I will just reiterate the main points discussed.

I originally wrote to Lord Falconer on 20 May 2004. I received a holding response on 9 June promising a reply by 25 June. This was followed up by your letter of 30 June which did not answer any of the questions I had raised. Instead you quoted the "Separation of Powers". Why did it take over a month to come up with that response?

You suggested that I should allow my "legal representatives to handle matters" but the legal profession has already cost my family two houses in the course of the Shell litigation. Furthermore, if your department cannot extract answers from a Judge, any lawyers employed by me would have even less likelihood of doing so.

If I understood you correctly from our telephone conversation (we did have some slight problems with language) UK Judges are a law unto themselves. From what you say, no one has any authority over them. I mentioned that in the USA a Judge was dismissed a few days ago for improper conduct but apparently that could not happen in the UK if a Judge misbehaved. In the particular case I have raised, I am only seeking answers to legitimate questions.

Fortunately my local MP, Mr Bob Russell MP also kindly wrote to your department. The person who replied to him, Miss Michelle Webster, says that the Home Office has responsibility for such matters and she has passed the matter on to them.

Two replies: two different answers. Thus the saga continues.

I am not complaining but merely making some observations.

Yours sincerely

Alfred Donovan