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14 September 2023

Dear Attorney General, and HM Coroner Hassel

Hon. Gaia Young (deceased)
Born: 4 March 1996 Died: 21 July 2021
Inquest 14 February 2022

My daughter Gaia died on 21 July 2021 shortly after admission to hospital of an unexplained brain condition. Her death was the subject of an inquest.

I am writing to make a complaint of contempt of court by University College London Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (“UCLH”) in respect of their role in her inquest. Please find enclosed the following materials:

1. Court order dated 28 January 2022 by HM Coroner Mary Hassell.
2. Letter dated 7 March 2022 by Dr Ben Killingley.
3. My letter dated 23 July 2023 to UCLH.

The court order dated 28 January 2022 included the following:

"UCLH will ensure the attendance at the inquest of such medical witness or witnesses to give oral evidence as are best able to assist HMC with the likely cause of the deceased's cerebral oedema and thus her death." (paragraph 9)

In my submission to the court and UCLH I suggested that Gaia had died from a metabolic encephalopathy and that accordingly such an appropriate neurological specialist should attend the inquest. This request was ignored.

The witnesses put forward by UCLH were not "best able to assist" the court. They were not appropriately qualified or experienced. The court concluded the cause of death was "unclear". The result was an inquest which was uninformed and uninformative: a waste of time and money.

Shortly *after* the inquest UCLH suggested metabolic encephalopathy as the cause of Gaia's death; they always had ready access to such appropriate medical witnesses in metabolic disease (see Dr Killingley letter). However, with disregard to the court order such appropriate experts were not consulted to assist the court *before* the inquest.

I have written to UCLH by my letter of 23 July 2023, and they have not provided a substantive response. I respectfully ask that you investigate the conduct of UCLH as representing contempt of court.

Many thanks for your consideration and I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Dorit

Lady Young of Dartington

CC'ed
Lord Chief Justice
Lord Chancellor
Chief Coroner
Judicial Conduct and Investigation Office
Emily Thornberry MP
C Mooney UCLH