



Judge A N MacLean
CHIEF CORONER

12 August 2010

Mrs & Mrs J & R Renata
10 Maoribank Grove
Upper Hutt

Email: leeann.renata@xtra.co.nz

Dear Mr & Mrs Renata

Your recent emails to our Wellington office have been referred to me.

The Coroner can only rely on the credentialed independent professional advice that he is receiving from the Pathologist and from Doctor Skinner. We have no proof of the credentials of Dr Shaw. The cost involved is considerable and as Dr Shaw himself notes the chances of a satisfactory outcome cannot be guaranteed.

You indicated that you would be prepared to meet the cost yourself. If you can confirm that you will meet the costs involved in having tests done I am happy to recommend to the Coroner (although it is finally his decision) that arrangement be made for the tissue blocks to be sent by FedEx to Dr Shaw. You will need to confirm with Dr Shaw and let the Coroner know what address to send the samples to.

We would meet that cost but that would be on the following understanding that:

1. Any subsequent costs and the risk would be your responsibility;
2. You would let the Coroner have a copy of Dr Shaw's conclusions whether supportive of your opinion or not;
3. Tissue released from the pathology department of Wellington hospital is irreplaceable. Whilst all effort has been made to abstract as much information as possible from the samples, scientific and legal developments are not predictable and, thus, further investigation or clinical review, should this become necessary, will not be possible once the tissues are released.

Yours faithfully

Judge A N MacLean
Chief Coroner