

**Petherick Michael (MOJ)**

**From:** Thomas Eichelbaum  
**Sent:** Thursday, 13 July 2000 8:15 pm  
**To:** Petherick Michael (MOJ)  
**Subject:** MINSTERIAL INQUIRY - ELLIS CASE

Michael, the following is the reply received from Professor Saywitz:

"I am writing in response to your recent e-mail regarding the Peter Ellis Case. Before I could provide an estimate of the amount of time required and whether it is feasible for me to take on this important work, I would like to have a brief telephone conversation with you in order to obtain a clearer understanding of the work that would be involved in producing the report you requested.

It is important for me to let you know that I would not be able to begin work on this case until September, after the American Psychological Association's Convention in August concludes, as I am currently the President of the APA Division of Child, Youth and Family Services with many out-of-town commitments throughout August. My standard fee for work of this nature is \$300.00 per hour.

Perhaps we could talk on Monday, July 17th at 9:00 PM Los Angeles time which would require you to call me on Tuesday, July 18th at 4:00 PM Auckland time. At that time you can contact me at 310-441-9553. Please let me know via e-mail how you would like to proceed."

Naturally I am concerned about the delay of one and a half months or a little more before Prof Saywitz could even start on the case. I imagine the work itself could take a month so we are looking at October for completion, and then another say 2 weeks for opportunity for comment. Then I would have to finish my Report, so we could not anticipate a release date before November - assuming the second expert does not need any longer time period.

As to fees (no doubt quoted in \$US) I really have no yardstick. However, from another point of view, the requirement for the engagement of 2 international experts must always have carried the prospect of some delay, and heavy expense; and Prof Saywitz obviously is one of the top people in the field.

I have told the Professor that I will ring her on Tuesday p.m. as requested, so please give me a call with Val's and your views.

Best regards Thomas Eichelbaum