

## MINISTERIAL INQUIRY- PETER ELLIS CASE

August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2000

Your Honour;

I apologize for taking so long to respond, but I have been attempting to assess my workload for the Fall, to see if I could undertake this project. I am already committed to a number of cases ( both child welfare and criminal), as well as research, teaching and assessments. I have carefully read the information you sent me, and I have suggested a "loose" budget and time line. Of course the exact amount of time spent will depend on the amount of written material you will require me to read and synthesize, in addition to the tapes and transcripts of the tapes, as well as how extensive a review you require of current "best practice" models for investigating mass allegations of sexual abuse.

- 1) I would be prepared to outline in a ten page report ( with references), the accepted 'state of the art' procedures that are being recommended for interviewing potential child victims (especially in multiple victim cases). This could serve as an intro of sorts, to the report itself.
- 2) I envision seeing the tapes twice each, once for content of disclosures, and the other focussed on interviewing techniques. That would translate into about forty hours of viewing, note taking and jotting down comments. I would likely develop several charts of characteristics/ other variables, in order to do this more effectively.
- 3) With respect to the broader issue of the criminal justice system response, I would need to read all the material you sent with respect to the role of the parents, and to obtain a better understanding of how the investigation was actually conducted by the police, the timing of the interviews number of officers involved with the children etc. After a first read , I will be in a better position to ask questions. I likely have many questions in that regard. I need an estimate of the amount of time involved in reading this material ( what is a considerable quantity?) Is five to ten hours a reasonable amount of time to estimate?
- 4) I would begin in October and have the report completed for the New Year.
- 5) My fee is \$100/hour. I would require a letter of intent and a contract, and an undertaking of \$1000 to begin, as I am in private practice and this will be very labour intensive in the beginning.
- 6) My best guess with respect to writing the report is that it will likely take me twice as long as I think it will , and that a 1:1 time ratio, with respect to absorbing the " data" and writing the report is reasonable. This sounds confusing, but for every hour data I review, one hour of writing /editing.
- 7) Based on that estimate, this will probably take about one hundred hours to complete.
- 8) I would type the initial draft (its easier), but will send it out to a proper typist for the formal copy, and provide you with the disc as well. This cost would be added on as

**Sim Val (MOJ)**

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**From:** Thomas Eichelbaum  
**Sent:** Monday, 21 August 2000 9:31 am  
**To:** val.sim@justice.govt.nz  
**Subject:** ELLIS INQUIRY - PROF SAS



Response Inq wpd

Val, here is the memo from Professor Sas. T.E.

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Louise Sas <lsas@home.com>  
**To:** t  
**Date:** Friday, 18 August 2000 03:08 PM  
**Subject:** Thomas Eichelbaum

>RE: Ministerial Inquiry Ellis Case

> I have just prepared a response to your outline. I will be out of the  
> province for ten days returning on the 29th of August. I have sent my cv  
> today to you by UPS. it should arrive shortly.  
> I look forward to hearing from you. Louise Sas  
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