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STATEMENT - SIGURD KLOMSÆT

I am currently the Executive Director with responsibility for Operations for the Forensic Science Service (FSS). As such I am the most senior operational forensic scientist in the company, and have over 32 years experience. In this capacity I am more then happy to give an open reference for Sigurd Klomsæt to forward To Whom It May Concern.

In 1998 my colleague at the time Dr Ann Priston and I were engaged in the "Birgitte Tengs" case at the Gulating Appeals Court in Stavanger, Norway. In which I gave evidence and Sigurd Klomsaet was the defence Counsel. I found his grasp of the fairly complex scientific issues involved to be very good, and his understanding of the forensic techniques involved to be clear, including the potential limitations of various scientific methods. Since my visits to Norway, Sigurd Klomsæt has visited myself and other experts at the FSS London on several occasions (roughly twice a year) to discuss a range of forensic issues and particular cases, some of which the FSS has also provided scientific advice on.

Mr. Klomsæt has followed the various processes that exist within the FSS, from receiving a case until the production of the final results and a statement for use in court. I have personally guided him when visiting the London Laboratory and as such I believe that he has certainly fulfilled the requirements of him which I understand he is expected to demonstrate within Norway.

Sigurd Klomsæt is one of the few lawyers I have encountered in Europe who I would recognise as making this effort to stay informed on current techniques and processes used throughout the FSDS and also with other forensic experts in the UK. I therefore have no hesitation in recommending him highly in this respect to clients and to the courts in Norway, as well as internationally.

Yours sincerely

Chris Hadkiss Executive Director - UKCJS

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