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Press Release

Covert surveillance during Stephen Lawrence Investigation

The Met BPA are deeply concerned with the revelations in the press today that the MPS used surveillance and an undercover police officer to undermine the integrity of the Lawrence Family and Duwayne Brooks, whilst investigating the murder of Stephen Lawrence.

This information was withheld from the McPherson inquiry and the question that needs to be asked now is "Why?"

The allegation supports the concerns of Doreen & Neville at the time of the investigation and reduces further the trust & confidence between the Metropolitan Police Service and the black community.

The Commissioner must now seek to reassure the family and the black community that victims and witnesses will be treated with integrity and fairness. The current investigation into the use of undercover police officers should not be left to the media to reveal their secrets from the past.

The Met BPA Chair Janet Hills stated that the Commissioner must deal with this matter now and offer an apology to the Lawrence family, Duwayne Brooks and the wider black community. The Commissioner must reassure communities that they will be treated fairly when coming into contact with the police. Janet Hills added "I am calling on the Home Secretary to call a public inquiry into these allegations, with a central priority of creating openness and building trust and confidence".

Note to editors: All press enquiries to the Chair of the MetBPA, Janet Hills on 07887 635 375