

**UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD**  
**DEPARTMENT OF FORENSIC PATHOLOGY**

**STATEMENT OF EMERITUS PROFESSOR MICHAEL ALAN GREEN**

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1. I am Michael Alan GREEN. My professional qualifications are MBChB FRCPath DCH DObst RCOG DMJ. Until 31 March 1999 I was Professor of Forensic Pathology in the University of Sheffield. I now hold the status of Emeritus Professor. I remain a Consultant Pathologist to the Home Office.
2. My career in forensic pathology has spanned over thirty years, and throughout that time I have been responsible for the teaching of undergraduate and postgraduate students all aspects of the interface between medicine and the law. I have a particular interest in the legal, social and ethnic aspects of death and dying. In 1990 I co-authored a text book entitled *Dealing with Death*, with Dr J B Green. This was published by Chapman & Hall. It was devoted largely to ethnic and religious issues, but also contained chapters on the sensitive dealing with relatives in the event of an autopsy being necessary or desirable. I have worked closely with coroners in the North and North East of England for many years, and during that time have been involved in efforts to ensure that member of the public were treated sensitively at times of bereavement.
3. Until the end of 1998, I was Chairman of the Forensic Specialist Advisory Committee of the Royal College of Pathologists. I was a member of its Council, Chairman of the Forensic Examiners' Panel, and served on various specialist working groups. These included the group which produced the document *Guidelines for the Retention of Tissues at Post Mortem Examination*. I also served on the College Working Party

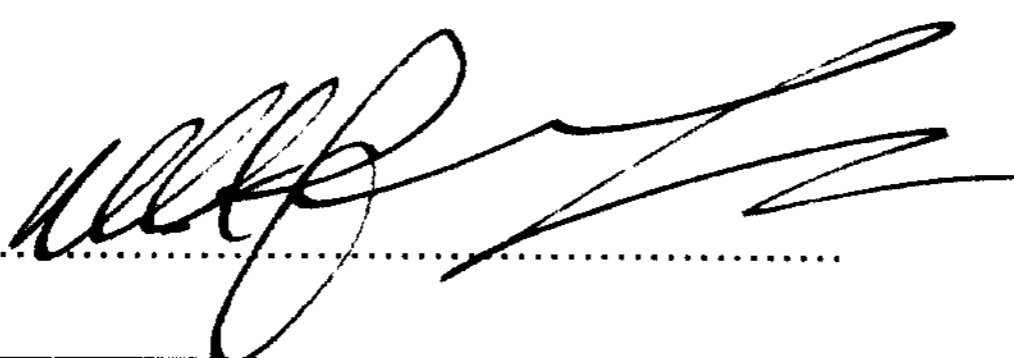
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under the chairmanship of Professor Dame Rosalinde Hurley, which produced the document *The Storage of Pathological Material and Archives*.

4. I have read Professor MacSween's statement dated 18 March 1999, and am entirely in agreement with its contents. He did consult me when he was preparing the relevant parts of his statement. We also consulted closely with the Coroners' Society.
5. I commend our latest guidelines to the Inquiry. The College as a body has always been sensitive to the feelings of relatives and the potential conflicts which may arise between their wishes and the requirements of the Coroners' Act 1988. We have also always tried to ensure that trainees in histopathology were appropriately educated in their attitude to relatives and to the retention of material for teaching, research and diagnosis. Consent for hospital autopsy is most commonly sought by clinicians rather than pathologists. We hope that our document will serve not only members and fellows of the College of Pathologists, but will set standards for physicians and surgeons in their approach to relatives of the recently bereaved.

Signed 

Date *5/7/99*