

| **Michael Stone Press Release**

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Paul Bacon, Solicitor with Bryan & Armstrong Solicitors, Mansfield, on behalf of Michael Stone, will say:

We have received the final decision of the Criminal Cases Review Commission today, 26 October 2010, in which they indicate that they are not referring the matter to the Court of Appeal.

We asked the Criminal Cases Review Commission to have a number of items forensically examined using the latest DNA techniques. In particular, there was a shoe lace which was one of the major exhibits in the trial. Tiny extracts from it, taken at the time of the trial, identified that it contained material from the deceased and DNA from a number of other people, but not Michael Stone. We hoped that a full examination of the lace would lead to the identification of another significant person already on the DNA database.

We have now been told that the shoe lace is missing from the Kent Police Exhibit Store for this case. An empty exhibit bag relating to that item has been found. I have spoken to Michael Stone on the telephone from his prison. He says that he is absolutely appalled that this has happened. He was hoping that these latest tests might show emphatically that he was not involved and identify the person who was.

Mr Stone's Counsel and I will now be visiting about the next steps we will take.