

# The Baha Mousa Public Inquiry

Inquiry Chairman: The Right Honourable Sir William Gage

Monday 19 January 2009

## Press notice

### Inquiry holds second Directions Hearing

Today, the Baha Mousa Public Inquiry held its second Directions Hearing. The hearing was a procedural one at which the Chairman, the Rt Hon Sir William Gage, heard submissions from lawyers representing the Inquiry's core participants.

The hearing dealt principally with issues relating to anonymity for witnesses. The Chairman postponed his ruling on the applications made today in relation to some of those who were detained with Baha Mousa, but issued an interim Order protecting their personal details. All journalists are asked to read the Order to ensure that it is not breached. For clarification as to the persons to whom the Order relates, the Inquiry press office will be pleased to assist. The Order is in addition to reporting restrictions already in effect (see notes to editors 5).

As with all the Inquiry's open hearings, the transcript will be available on its website soon afterwards. The transcript will go live from 1800 today and can be viewed by following the links at:

[www.bahamousainquiry.org/hearings/directions\\_hearing/index.htm](http://www.bahamousainquiry.org/hearings/directions_hearing/index.htm).

The Chairman has indicated a provisional date for the third Directions Hearing on Wednesday 18 February 2009 at which he will hear anonymity applications.

### Note to Editors

1. All Hearings are held at the Inquiry's premises in the City of London: Finlaison House, 15-17 Funnival Street, London EC4A 1AB. ([View location map](#)).

2. Today's hearing had the following agenda:
  - Ruling and undertakings (to note)
  - Representation issues
  - Evidence gathering/redaction/distribution process
  - Anonymity and publicity issues
  - Timetable
3. An issues list is available on the Inquiry's website at [www.bahamousainquiry.org/key\\_documents/index.htm](http://www.bahamousainquiry.org/key_documents/index.htm). This is designed as a guide to the issues that the Inquiry is likely to cover and it may be subject to revision from time to time.
4. Directions hearings are open to the public. Journalists wishing to attend the hearing should contact the Inquiry press office (details below) and will need to arrive by 09:45 on the hearing day(s) to ensure entry. All attendees will be required to undergo security checks in line with normal court procedures before being admitted to the building, and photography and the use of mobile phones in the hearing room is prohibited.
5. Court Reporting Rules: Sir William Gage highlighted at the Preliminary Hearing that at the Court Martial of seven servicemen arising out of these events, the presiding Judge Advocate made an order, which remains in force for this Inquiry, requiring the media not to publish certain features and information in relation to the Defendants. A further Order, made by the Chairman on 19 January, relates to anonymity for some of those who were detained with Baha Mousa. A note on reporting restrictions and a copy of the Order are available on the Inquiry's website.

**For more information please contact Suzanne Halls or Mark Fenwick in the Baha Mousa Inquiry Press Office on 020 7261 8327 / 07971 186710, or visit the website at [www.bahamousainquiry.org](http://www.bahamousainquiry.org).**