

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 11 2005

KWAME WIREDU– BLACK DEATH IN STOKE NEWINGTON POLICE STATION – INQUEST TO BEGIN ON MONDAY

**HM Coroner for Inner North London Dr Reid
St Pancras Coroner’s Court, 9.30 am
Camley Street,
London NW1 0WP
Kings Cross/Euston (nearest tube)**

On Monday 14 February at 9.30 am the inquest into the death of 23-year-old Kwame Wiredu will begin. On 30 August 2002 Kwame collapsed and suffered a cardiac arrest whilst being detained at Stoke Newington police station. The inquest is scheduled to last two weeks.

Kwame had been apprehended outside a supermarket in Dalston where he complained of pain and trouble breathing. He was unable to walk but was arrested and taken to Stoke Newington police station. Four hours after arriving he was found collapsed.

It is hoped that the inquest will examine a number of key issues including:

- Whether or not the police officers took his complaints seriously;
- Whether or not he was fit to be detained;
- If he was appropriately monitored;
- Why there is no CCTV record of events.

Notes to Editors

The family – son and partner of Kwame Wiredu - will be represented by Alison Macdonald of Matrix Chambers, instructed by Jocelyn Cockburn from Hodge Jones & Allen solicitors..

INQUEST is the only non-governmental organisation in England and Wales that works directly with the families of those who die in custody. It provides an independent free legal and advice service to bereaved people on inquest procedures and their rights in the coroner’s courts.