

For immediate release DATE

CPS DECIDES AGAINST PROSECUTION IN AZELLE RODNEY CASE

Today, the family of Azelle Rodney, shot seven times in a pre-planned Metropolitan Police operation in 2005, issued the following statement in response to the Crown Prosecution Service's decision not to prosecute any officers involved in the shooting.

STATEMENT OF THE FAMILY OF AZELLE RODNEY

The family of Azelle Rodney today received a letter from the Crown Prosecution Service informing them that the CPS has advised the Independent Police Complaints Commission that there was insufficient evidence to bring any criminal charges against any Metropolitan Police officers involved in the fatal shooting of Azelle Rodney on 30 April 2005.

The family is extremely disappointed with this decision, but not at all surprised.

Once again, the family is dismayed that misinformation is being released about this case.

*Contrary to the statement issued by the Metropolitan Police earlier today, "Three loaded and fully operational guns" **were not** recovered from the car and the CPS has confirmed that the firearms officer who killed Azelle Rodney, "never claimed to have seen a man in the back holding a gun".*

The family want the inquest into the killing of Azelle Rodney to be re-opened as soon as possible so that all the evidence can be examined in public by a jury.

Hopefully, with the family having access to all the evidence, which they have not had until now, all of the questions that need to be answered can be put to the officers involved.

Before then, any decisions on possible disciplinary action would be premature.

Notes to editors:

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.

Daniel Machover, Hickman & Rose Solicitors	office 020 7700 2211
Further Information	www.inquest.org.uk
INQUEST	office 020 7263 1111