

ROYAL COURT

14th July, 1989.

Before: The Deputy Bailiff and
Jurats Orchard and Le Ruez

Between:	David Martin Watkins	Plaintiff
And:	Peter Geoffrey Kevitt Manton	Defendant

Representation of the plaintiff alleging certain breaches of the interim injunction contained in the Order of Justice in the above action.

Advocate D.E. Le Cornu for the plaintiff
Mr. Manton on his own behalf.

JUDGMENT

DEPUTY BAILIFF: The Court accepts that Mr. Manton was under great pressure and in a state of confusion when he looked at the Order of Justice and Injunction. The Court accepts his apology, thrice repeated, for the breach and as such accepts that he has purged his contempt. The Court notes his undertaking that there will be no further breaches of the Injunction.

In those circumstances it is unnecessary to grant a week's delay or any delay. The Court has decided to impose no punishment for the contempt

already committed because of the apology, explanation and undertaking, however, the Court issues a warning. I understand that the radio programme on Radio Jersey this Sunday morning will include a phone-in. I have no knowledge of how these things are controlled, if at all, by Radio Jersey, but Mr. Manton must not allow himself to be led or induced by any comment or question to make any reference to Mr. Watkins.

I have to say that any further breach of this Injunction will lead to an Order by me for his immediate arrest and production before this Court. The whole purpose of an Interim Injunction is a holding operation to preserve the status quo and to prevent any further aggravation. It does not decide the substance of the complaint which will be dealt with in due course in accordance with the Royal Court Rules. It is nevertheless very important to preserve the status quo and the Injunction must not be breached.

Mr. Manton is seriously at fault in one respect. Whatever the pressures, a Royal Court document signed by a Judge of this Court should have received first priority. That he did not read it carefully and understand it well and, if necessary, take advice on it yesterday afternoon, is to be deplored. An Order of this Court takes priority over any television programme or electoral meeting. Therefore we order that Mr. Manton will pay the costs of and incidental to the Representation and this afternoon's hearing on a full indemnity basis.

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n.b: no authorities.