

1 **Friday, September 2, 2011**

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3 MS. MOORE: My Lord, I rise to my feet in  
4 the traditions of the English bar to, if I may,  
5 mention a few words about Lee Acres Freeman  
6 this morning.

7 Lee Freeman was well-known member of the  
8 local bar, having arrived here in 2001. My  
9 Lord may know that he passed away in the early  
10 hours of Monday morning.

11 He was born in Toronto on the 31<sup>st</sup> of  
12 December of 1970, but moved to London at the  
13 young age of about six months. He progressed  
14 through his career and got an LLM in  
15 International Business Law in 1993 at King's  
16 College, London, having followed on from his  
17 University of London law degree the year  
18 before.

19 He was called to the bar at Middle Temple.

20 THE COURT: Middle Temple?

21 MS. MOORE: Yes, My Lord, in 1993, and did  
22 his pupillage at 1 Crown Office Row in 1994 to  
23 1995 under the auspices of Nigel Lambert QC.  
24 He then went on to practice --

25 THE COURT: That was the same set as Dick

1 Ferguson, was it?

2 MS. MOORE: Yes, My Lord, he was in Mr.  
3 Ferguson's set.

4 He went on to practice from 2 King's Bench  
5 Walk from 1995 to 2001 when he arrived on  
6 island to assist Mr. McCann in the *Eurobank*  
7 trial. He came over initially simply to assist  
8 in that matter for Campbells, but continued --

9 THE COURT: For Campbells? That's right,  
10 yes.

11 MS. MOORE: For Campbells. But continued  
12 as a litigation associate for them until 2003,  
13 and during that time appeared in a number of  
14 well-known cases, including the case of *Weeks*  
15 *v. Williams*, which is the leading case in this  
16 jurisdiction on The Hague Convention and child  
17 kidnap, when he was led by Mr. McCann.

18 He moved on to practice at Ogier, which in  
19 fact at that time was Boxalls, where he met  
20 Daniel Priestley, who he latterly worked for.  
21 During that time, he picked up a number of  
22 different cases and ultimately, when he was at  
23 Ogier, he first contracted the brain tumour,  
24 which was eventually, seven years later, to  
25 kill him.

1           He went on to work at Broadhurst  
2 Barristers, where he appeared and took the case  
3 of *Donald Knight* to Privy Council. He did not  
4 appear in the Privy Council, but was  
5 instrumental in moving the matter forward.

6           He always, My Lord, appeared with humour,  
7 dry as it was, and a certain way with the  
8 judiciary. And, My Lord, he is well known  
9 amongst the local bar, and I am sure he will be  
10 very much missed.

11           In his private life, he had assisted with  
12 the Legal Befrienders for some eight years on  
13 island, and he also appeared and advised on the  
14 Organ Transplant Committee, which has of course  
15 assisted very much in the implementation in the  
16 new hospital in the East End.

17           He was an active part of Sunrise Rotary,  
18 and in his spare time he enjoyed boating, he  
19 enjoyed going out with his young family, and  
20 enjoyed all the restaurants this island has to  
21 offer.

22           He passed away, as I say, in the early  
23 hours of Monday morning, in hospital in Miami,  
24 having fought brain cancer for nearly seven  
25 years. He leaves behind him his wife and two

1 young children.

2 And in the words that Lee Freeman would  
3 always use: *Bish bash bosh*.

4 MR. MASTERS: My Lord, I have been asked  
5 on behalf of the Crown to say a few words, they  
6 are extemporaneous, and of course they will be  
7 nowhere near as eloquent as my friend's, but  
8 I'm sure that Mr. Freeman, being the person we  
9 all know, would not be overly concerned about  
10 that.

11 On behalf of the Crown, we have always  
12 found Mr. Freeman to be an absolute pleasure to  
13 deal with, he was a gentleman, and in this day  
14 and age there are not as many as we think there  
15 are. He was always polite with the Crown, yet  
16 he was always robust with what he requested.  
17 He never compromised his client's position.

18 He had a fantastic sense of humour. I had  
19 only personally known him for a short time, but  
20 I would enjoy very much every time we would  
21 interact. He will be dearly missed, I'm sure,  
22 by everyone in the island, and he will be  
23 missed by the Crown. We send our condolences  
24 to his family, and in particular his children,  
25 who I believe are still at a tender age.

1 THE COURT: Ms. Moore, thank you very much  
2 and, Mr. Masters, thank you very much.

3 Obviously the Bench, speaking for all the  
4 Grand Court, are very, very sad that this young  
5 life was taken so short. He was the most  
6 courteous of counsel. He was plainly dedicated  
7 to his client and his client's case. He  
8 managed to achieve the very difficult  
9 achievement of remaining popular, whilst at the  
10 same time doing his best for his client.

11 All I can say is please pass on our  
12 condolences to his widow and their young  
13 family, and indeed to you and your firm, Mr.  
14 Priestley and everybody who works there.

15 MS. MOORE: Thank you, My Lord.

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17 **REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE**

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19 **Certified correct to the best of my skill and**  
20 **ability, dated the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of September 2011.**

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