

Claim No: HC10C03458

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE

CHANCERY DIVISION

BETWEEN: -

SIENNA MILLER

Claimant

- and -

(1) NEWSGROUP NEWSPAPERS LIMITED  
(2) GLENN MULCAIRE

Defendants

---

STATEMENT IN OPEN COURT

---

Counsel for the Claimant

1. In this action for misuse of private information, breach of confidence and harassment, I appear for the Claimant. My learned friend, Michael Silverleaf QC, appears for the First Defendant.
2. The Claimant is a well-known British actress, who has starred in a number of films such as *Alfie*, *Layer Cake*, *Stardust*, *Factory Girl* and *The Edge of Love*, *Interview* and *Gl Joe*. The First Defendant is the publisher of the News of the World newspaper which has a considerable readership in this jurisdiction and which also publishes its content on its website [www.newsoftheworld.com](http://www.newsoftheworld.com).
3. In 2005 and 2006, the Claimant was the subject of numerous articles published in the News of the World, which contained intrusive and private information. The Claimant did not know the source of this information at the time of publication and could not understand how it was possible for the News of the World to obtain such private information.
4. Over the same period, the Claimant had considerable concerns about the security of her mobile telephone, having experienced periods of hang up calls and missing voicemail messages. The Claimant changed her mobile telephone number three times in three months in an attempt to protect herself.
5. The information which was being published was only known to trusted friends

and family. The Claimant did not know whether someone close to her was leaking information or whether her mobile telephone was somehow being hacked into. Both possibilities were extremely distressing for the Claimant.

6. In 2009, as a result of the Claimant's long held concerns, her solicitors, Atkins Thomson, wrote to the Metropolitan Police Service asking whether they had any evidence in that the Claimant had been targeted by News Group Newspapers Limited in 2005-2006. After some delay, the Claimant was informed that the Police had evidence to suggest that she had been a target and in June 2010 she made an application for disclosure of documents by the Police. Over the next few months the Police disclosed a number of documents.
7. In October 2010, after considerable investigations, the Claimant issued proceedings against News Group Newspapers and Glenn Mulcaire for misuse of private information, breach of confidence and harassment. In November 2010, she set out her claim in detail in her Particulars of Claim including the fact that her voicemail messages and the voicemail messages of those close to her had been targeted in order to find out private information for publication in the News of the World. Both Defendants indicated their intention to defend the entire claim and in February 2011 served Defences.
8. On 12 <sup>May</sup> ~~April~~ 2011, the First Defendant by its leading counsel admitted liability for all the causes of action brought by the Claimant in open court. This meant that News Group accepted that confidential and private information had been obtained by the unlawful access of the Claimant's voicemail messages, that confidential and private information had been published as a result, and that there had been an invasion of her privacy, breaches of confidence and a campaign of harassment for over 12 months. News Group accepted that these activities should not have taken place and that the articles should not have been published.
9. News Group also agreed to provide the Claimant with information and disclosure so that she could find out the full extent of the wrongdoing which has taken place.
10. In view of this unconditional admission of liability, and the agreement to provide information and documents, there was no longer any issue in the action between the Claimant and News Group and she has therefore applied to enter judgment against them.
11. News Group has agreed to pay £100,000 to the Claimant as damages and the Claimant's legal costs. The Court has also granted an injunction preventing any further unlawful accessing of the Claimant's voicemail messages and publication of the Claimant's private information.

12. The order also provides for disclosure of information about the extent of the activities and expressly allows the Claimant to apply back to Court to vary the provisions for injunctions and delivery up the in the light of any new material, documents or information that is disclosed by News Group. The Claimant will make such an application if significant new material comes to light to ensure that the Claimant's private information is fully protected.

**Counsel for the First Defendant**

13. My Lord, on behalf of the First Defendant I confirm everything my learned Friend, Mr Sherborne, has said.

14. The First Defendant is here today through me to offer its sincere apologies to the Claimant for the damage, as well as the distress, caused to her by the accessing of her voicemail messages, the publication of the private information in the articles and the related harassment she suffered as a consequence. The First Defendant acknowledges that the information should never have been obtained in the manner it was, the private information should never have been published and that the First Defendant has accepted liability for misuse of private information, breach of confidence and harassment.

**Counsel for the Claimant**

15. In the light of the order which has been made and this statement, the Claimant considers that she is fully vindicated.



**David Sherborne**  
**Counsel for the Claimant**



**Michael Silverleaf QC**  
**Counsel for the First Defendant**