

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE  
BUSINESS AND PROPERTY COURTS OF ENGLAND AND WALES  
BUSINESS LIST**

**IN THE MATTER OF THE MOBILE TELEPHONE VOICEMAIL INTERCEPTION LITIGATION**

**BEFORE: THE HONORABLE MR JUSTICE FANCOURT**

**B E T W E E N:**

**CATALINA GUIRADO**

**Claimant**

**and**

**NEWS GROUP NEWSPAPERS LIMITED**

**Defendant**

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**STATEMENT IN OPEN COURT**

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**Daniel Shaw, Hamlins LLP, Solicitor for the Claimant**

1. My Lord, in this action for misuse of private information, I appear on behalf of the Claimant, Ms Catalina Guirado. My learned friend, Mr Silverstone, appears on behalf of the Defendant, News Group Newspapers Limited.
2. Ms Guirado is a former model, actress and television personality who was a regular on the television show *TFI Friday* and a contestant on ITV's *I'm a Celebrity... Get Me Out of Here!* in 2003. Throughout her career, Ms Guirado associated with a number of other well-known individuals in the entertainment and modelling industries with whom she forged close friendships or was romantically involved. Ms Guirado pleaded that as a result of her work

and high-profile relationships, she was a person of considerable interest to the press. Ms Guirado asserts that the Defendant targeted her for these reasons.

3. The Defendant was the publisher of the *News of the World* which, until its closure in July 2011, was the UK's biggest selling Sunday Newspaper with a very considerable readership in this jurisdiction. The Defendant was, and remains, the publisher of *The Sun* which, to this day, enjoys a substantial circulation and readership in this jurisdiction, by way of hard copy sales of the newspaper and via its website.
4. In January 2022, Ms Guirado issued proceedings against the Defendant. Ms Guirado asserted that her voicemail messages were intercepted by the Defendant's journalists and she claimed that, as a result, those journalists were privy to private and confidential voicemail messages left on her mobile telephone by others, such as her friends, family, colleagues and other professional associates. Ms Guirado also pleaded that the Defendant had unlawfully obtained her personal information by deception.
5. Ms Guirado identified a number of articles published between 1996 and 2007 by the Defendant's newspapers, the *News of the World* and *The Sun*, which Ms Guirado claimed contained her private information and which she believed was obtained by unlawful means. Between 1996 and 2007, Ms Guirado used her voicemail extensively and would regularly receive and leave voicemail messages.
6. Ms Guirado further claimed that as a result of the Defendant's articles, she became paranoid and suspicious as to who was the source of the private information published in the Defendant's newspapers. Ms Guirado alleged that this caused her considerable distress and her reputation suffered as a result.

7. Ms Guirado is pleased to confirm that she has accepted the Defendant's offer to resolve her claim on terms confidential between the parties and which involve the payment of substantial damages by the Defendant to her, as well as her reasonable legal costs of bringing the claim. The Defendant has also provided appropriate undertakings to the Court and Ms Guirado and it has agreed to join in this statement to apologise publicly to Ms Guirado for the distress caused to her by the invasion of her privacy by individuals working for or on behalf of the *News of the World*. The Defendant makes no admission of liability in relation to Ms Guirado's allegations of voicemail interception and/or other unlawful information gathering at *The Sun*.

**Ben Silverstone, Counsel for the Defendant**

8. My Lord, on behalf of the Defendant, I confirm everything that my friend has said.
9. The Defendant is here today, through me, to offer its sincere apologies to Ms Guirado for the distress caused to her by the invasion of her privacy by individuals working for or on behalf of the *News of the World*. The Defendant acknowledges that such activity should never have taken place, and that it had no right to intrude into the private life of Ms Guirado in this way.

**Daniel Shaw, Hamlins LLP, Solicitor for the Claimant**

10. My Lord, in light of the order that has been made, and this public statement, Ms Guirado considers that the matter is now concluded.

Hamblins LLP

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**Hamblins LLP  
Solicitors for the Claimant**

Clifford Chance LLP

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**Clifford Chance LLP  
Solicitors for the Defendant**