

**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:

CHRISTOPHER DAVID MOYLES

Claimant

and

NEWS GROUP NEWSPAPERS LIMITED

Defendant

STATEMENT IN OPEN COURT

Katie Major, Hamlins LLP, Solicitor for the Claimant

1. My Lord, in this action for misuse of private information, I appear on behalf of the Claimant, Chris Moyles. My learned friend, Mr Silverstone, appears on behalf of the Defendant, News Group Newspapers Limited.
2. Mr Moyles is a radio presenter who has worked in the industry for over 20 years. Notably, he presented the BBC *Radio 1 Breakfast Show 'The Chris Moyles Show'*, for 8 years. Mr Moyles is also a television presenter and author. He currently presents *The Chris Moyles Show* on *Radio X*.

3. In his claim, Mr Moyles pleaded that by virtue of his profession and his relationships with other high-profile individuals, he was privy to private information relating to him and his various associates. Mr Moyles pleaded that he was subjected to press intrusion as a consequence of this.
4. 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.
5. In August 2022, Mr Moyles issued proceedings against the Defendant. Mr Moyles claimed that his voicemail messages were intercepted by the Defendant's journalists, and he asserted that, as a result, those journalists were privy to private and confidential voicemail messages left on his mobile telephone by others. Mr Moyles also pleaded that the Defendant had unlawfully obtained his personal information by deception.
6. Mr Moyles identified a number of articles published by the Defendant's newspapers, which he asserted contained his private information and he believed was obtained by unlawful means. Mr Moyles pleaded that during this time he used his voicemail extensively and would regularly exchange voicemail messages.
7. Mr Moyles further claimed that, as a result of the Defendant's articles, he became suspicious as to who might be the source of the private information that was being published in the Defendant's newspapers. Mr Moyles alleged that the publication of the articles caused him distress and adversely affected his relationships.

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

Ben Silverstone, Counsel for the Defendant

9. My Lord, on behalf of the Defendant, I confirm everything that my friend has said.

10. The Defendant is here today, through me, to offer its sincere apologies to the Claimant for the distress caused to him by the invasion of his 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 the Claimant in this way.

Katie Major, Hamlins LLP, Solicitor for the Claimant

11. My Lord, in light of the order that has been made, and this public statement, Mr Moyles 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