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Our reference: BVFOI/061/14 re Carol Joan Frakes

Freedom of Information Act 2000 Request

You asked for the following information from the Treasury Solicitor's Department ("the Department"):

Please confirm if a claim has been admitted on this intestate case.

If a claim has been admitted, please confirm who is carrying out the administration of this estate.

Your request will be dealt with by the Bona Vacantia Division ("the Division") under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

The Division holds all the information that you have requested.

The Division's published advertisement of unclaimed estates includes only solvent and claimable estates and is available at https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/unclaimed-estates-list. If an estate has been removed from the list it can be assumed that a claim has been admitted. The information you requested is reasonably accessible to you by other means and is therefore exempt from disclosure under section 21 of the Act

I have withheld information relating to the identity of the administrator of the estate since this information was provided to us in confidence. This information is exempt from disclosure under Section 41 of the Act as the Division considers that the information was received in confidence, and that to reveal the information would constitute an actionable breach of the duty of confidence.

In considering whether disclosure would be an actionable breach of confidence the Division has considered whether there is a public interest in disclosing the information that would outweigh the public interest in keeping the information confidential.

There is a strong public interest in keeping confidential information that has been disclosed in confidence, and in this case there is no specific reason in favour of disclosure of the information. Disclosure would not protect public safety, nor would it expose wrongdoing such as misfeasance, maladministration, negligence or other iniquity on the part of the Division. In this case the Division considers that the public interest in keeping the information confidential outweighs the public interest in disclosing it.

