

Our Ref; MUR0004/01/EmcG

Your Ref;

11<sup>th</sup> April 2007

The Chief State Solicitor  
Osmond House  
Little Ship Street  
Dublin 8  
Fax: 4176299

**Re: The High Court – 2007 No. 2819 P Catherine Murphy and Finian  
McGrath v The Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government  
& Ors**

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Dear Sir,

We refer to the above in which we act for the Plaintiffs.

We have “served” the proceedings by delivery of same on your goodselves. This happened last Thursday.

We have discussed, with our clients, the response of your clients as reported on RTE in the following terms:

A spokesman for the Minister for Environment said  
'There was unequivocal advice from the Attorney  
General that the constituency boundaries should be  
based on the final census figures due at the end of  
the month.'

Our clients are, frankly, mystified by this response.

- a) Is it being suggested that the final census figures have not been published/ascertained?

- b) Is it being suggested that figures published/ascertained before the date prescribed by the Attorney General are of no consequence?
- c) Is it possible (which seems unlikely; see below) that the statement is an admission by the Defendants of the validity of the Plaintiffs case?

We refer you to the CSO website where, (as cited in the Statement of Claim) the final census figures are available. These were issued on 29<sup>th</sup> March 2007.

It is astonishing, therefore, that the Attorney General should be quoted as an authority apparently suggesting that the final census figures are not published/ascertained.

Equally disturbing is the suggestion, of the same spokesperson, that our clients' proceedings are opportunistic and entered into purely for personal aggrandisement.

We write to you further in the light of the urgent need for action by the Government to remedy the situation. We are instructed by our clients to offer every assistance to the Government in terms of discussions; urgent applications to court for directions etc., so that the impending elections will be fair and beyond constitutional challenge.

It is in the interests of every elector in the State that this should be the case.

We await hearing from you urgently.

Yours Faithfully,



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McGarr Solicitors