**CODING SCHEME**

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| **SAMPLE DESCRIPTION** | |
| 1. Case | Pluck v R [2010] EWCA Crim 2936 |
| 2. Date of appeal hearing | 171110 |
| 3. Date of original trial/conviction | 300596 |
| 4. Keywords found in case | 8 |
| 5. Decision *Provide quote if short, otherwise summarise* | 1 |
| 6. Number of pages | 17 |
| **DEFENDANT DEMOGRAPHICS (code as 99 if not stated and cannot be inferred)** | |
| 7. Defendant’s gender? | 1 |
| 8. Defendant’s age (at time of offence)? | 99 |
| 9. Defendant’s nationality (at time of offence)? | 99 |
| 10. Defendant’s employment status (at time of offence)? | 1 |
| 11. Defendant’s education level (at time of offence)? | 99 |
| 12. Defendant’s relationship status (at time of offence)? | 99 |
| 13. Did defendant have any children (at time of offence)? | 99 |
| 14. Was defendant homeless (at time of offence)? | 2 |
| **APPEAL CASE/HEARING FACTORS (code as 99 if not stated and cannot be inferred)** | |
| 15. When was appeal initiated? (e.g., post-trial, post-conviction, post-sentence, other) | 99 |
| 16. Who is appellant? (e.g., prosecution, defence, other) | 1 |
| 17. What is appeal against? (e.g., conviction, sentence, both, other) | 1 |
| 18. What are the grounds/reason(s) for appeal? *Provide quote if short, otherwise summarise* | Acting on the appellants behalf the defence asks the court to consider fresh psychiatric evidence about a key prosecution witness, which he submits ought to have been adduced on the appellant's behalf at the trial which might have made a difference to the jury's verdicts |
| 19. Was fresh evidence presented at appeal? **19b.** If yes, was it fingerprint/DNA/Digital evidence? **19c.** If no, what was it? | Q19: 1  Q19b: 2  Q19c: 99 |
| 20. Were new techniques used to re-examine old evidence at appeal? | 1 |
| 21. Were new fingerprint/DNA/Digital experts consulted by defence after original trial? | 2 |
| 22. Were new fingerprint/DNA/Digital experts consulted by prosecution after original trial? | 1 |
| 23. Did new prosecution fingerprint/DNA/Digital experts present evidence at appeal hearing? | 1 |
| 24. Did new defence fingerprint/DNA/Digital experts present evidence at appeal hearing? | 2 |
| 25. Was concern expressed at appeal hearing about qualifications, knowledge, skills or experience of any new prosecution fingerprint/DNA/Digital expert(s)? | 2 |
| 26. Was any concern expressed at appeal hearing about qualifications, knowledge, skills or experience of any new defence fingerprint/DNA/Digital expert(s)? | 2 |
| 27. Did prosecution and defence fingerprint/DNA/Digital expert conclusions disagree at appeal hearing? | 99 |
| 28. What were the main areas of disagreement between prosecution and defence fingerprint/DNA/Digital experts at appeal hearing? *Provide quote if short, otherwise summarise* | 99 |
| 29. Did fingerprint/DNA/Digital expert express his/her confidence in conclusion at appeal hearing? **29b.** If yes, how? *Provide quote if short, otherwise summarise* | Q29: 1  Q29b: Fresh tests carried out by a forensic scientist whose evidence showed that the two cigarette ends found in the wheelie-bin had DNA matching the profiles of both defendants. The DNA traces matched the profile of the co-defendant but not the appellant. From this the forensic scientist concluded that the cigarette end had not been shared by the defendants. She was not able to exclude the possibility that the appellant had handled or smoked it briefly in such a way that detectable levels of DNA were not transferred to it. |
| 30. Were any new probabilities of fingerprint/DNA match mentioned at appeal hearing? | 2 |
| 31. For DNA evidence, were any new contamination/error rates presented at appeal hearing? | 1 |
| 32. For fingerprint evidence, were any (new) points of dissimilarity between sample and print presented at appeal hearing? **32b.** If yes, how many? | Q32: 2  Q32b: 99 |
| 33. Did appeal court raise concerns about prosecution or defence team misunderstanding fingerprint/DNA/Digital evidence? **33b**. If yes, who raised it? | 2 |
| 34. Did appeal court raise concerns about jury at original trial misunderstanding or having difficulty understanding fingerprint/DNA/Digital evidence? **34b**. If yes, who raised it? | 2 |
| 35. Did appeal court raise concerns about judge at original trial misunderstanding fingerprint/DNA/Digital evidence? **35b.** If yes, Who raised it? | 2 |
| 36. Did appeal court raise concerns about application of either wrong case law at original trial or ignoring right case law? If yes, who raised it? | 2 |
| 37. Did appeal court raise concerns about errors in judge’s summing up of case at original trial? **37b.** If yes, who raised it? | 2 |
| 38. Did appeal court raise concerns about judge’s instructions confusing jury at original trial? **38b.** If yes, who raised it? | 2 |
| 39. Did appeal court raise concerns about how fingerprint/DNA/Digital evidence was presented at original trial? 39b. If yes, who raised it? | 2 |
| 40. Did appeal court raise concerns that weight of fingerprint/DNA/Digital evidence was overstated in court by either prosecution/defence/judge at original trial? **40b.** If yes, who raised it? | 2 |
| 41. Did appeal court raise concerns about inadmissible evidence being presented at original trial? **41b.** If yes, who raised it? | 2 |
| 42. Did appeal court refer to any existing case law? **42b.** If yes, which? | Q42a: 1  Q42b: Erskine and Williams [2009] EWCA Crim 1425, [2009] 2 Cr App R 29; Pendleton [2001] UKHL 66, [2002] 1 WLR 72 |
| 43. Name of appeal judge(s) | Lord Justice Toulson, Mr Justice Langstaff and Mr Justice Griffith Williams |
| 44. Name of lawyer(s) in appeal hearing, including who they represent | Mr T Owen and Mr J Knowles (instructed by K J Commons & Co) for the Appellant. Mr R Smith and Mr J Pitter (instructed by The Complex Casework Team) for the Crown |
| **ORIGINAL CASE/TRIAL CHARACTERISTICS (code as 99 if not stated and cannot be inferred)** | |
| 45. Date of crime (first date) | 250695 |
| 46. Was defendant immediately treated as a suspect? **46b.** If no, then how was defendant immediately treated? | Q46: 1  Q46b: 99 |
| 47. Were there other suspects (arrests)? | 2 |
| 48. Did the defendant plead guilty or was he/she convicted at trial? **48b.** If convicted, then was the jury verdict unanimous or other? | Q48: 1  Q48b: 99 |
| 49. Was this the first trial? | 1 |
| 50. What offence(s) was defendant convicted of/plead guilty to? | Murder |
| 51. Was there circumstantial evidence in the case? **51b.** If yes, what? | Q51: 1  Q51b: Co-defendant’s bloodstains and fingerprint found at crime scene, defendant’s blood found on a knife at the crime scene, medical evidence about the nature of an injury sustained by the co-defendant, Eye-witness testimony from several individuals, identification parade; appellants fingerprints found on an envelope at crime scene; DNA from cigarette ends that were recovered from the crime scene; an item taken from the crime scene and the co-defendants clothing from amongst burnt in debris discovered at the defendants house. |
| 52. Was there any other evidence in the case? **52b.** If yes, what? | Q52: 1  Q52b: The appellant and co-defendant’s accounts on how the latter sustained a laceration to his hand; the appellant alibi account; opinion evidence from a senior scientific advisor working for a cigarette company on extinguishing a cigarette; opinion evidence from a forensic scientist on DNA; Witness statement from an inmate who the appellant allegedly gave an account of his case to. Opinion evidence from a psychiatrist and psychologist on the mental state and behaviour of a witness who provided evidence against the appellant. |
| 53. Did defendant provide an alibi for whereabouts at time of crime? **53b.** If yes, was it corroborated? | Q53: 1  Q53b: 2 |
| 54. What was the defendant’s original sentence? | 99 |
| 55. Was case originally tried in Crown court or magistrates’ court? | 1 |
| 56. Name of judge(s) in original trial | Judge Jowitt |
| 57. Name of lawyer(s) in original trial | Mr. Aiden Marron and Mr David de Jehan counsel for the appellant |
| **INVESTIGATIVE STAGE (code as 99 if not stated and cannot be inferred)** | |
| **COLLECTION** |  |
| 58. Was concern expressed at original trial or appeal about there being a chance of contamination of fingerprint/DNA evidence prior to sample collection from the crime scene? | 2  **Annotations:** |
| 59. For DNA evidence, was concern expressed at original trial or about where the DNA came from? **59b.** If yes, where? | Q59. 2  Q59b. 99  **Annotations:** |
| 60. Was concern expressed at original trial or appeal about there being potential for evidence tampering/planting? | 2 |
| 61. Was there over a week delay between crime being committed and collection of fingerprint/DNA or Digital evidence from crime scene? | 1 |
| 62. How many fingerprint/DNA samples were taken from crime scene? | 99 |
| 63. Was only one method used to collect the sample(s) or multiple methods? | 2 |
| 64. Was concern expressed at original trial or appeal about the method(s) used to collect the sample? | 2 |
| 65. Was the fingerprint/DNA sample or Digital evidence in question considered by either the prosecution or defence experts to be partial or ambiguous? | 2 |
| 66. Were evidence requests made according to the legal rules? | 1 |
| 67. Was concern expressed at original trial or appeal about broken chain of custody i.e., who was looking after the fingerprint/DNA sample(s) or Digital evidence after they were collected? | 2 |
| **ANALYSIS** |  |
| 68. How much experience did the prosecution forensic examiner have? | 99 |
| 69. How much experience did the defence examiner have? | 99 |
| 70. Was concern expressed at original trial or appeal about the methods of fingerprint/DNA/Digital analysis used? | 2  **Annotations:** |
| 71. Was concern expressed at original trial or appeal about there being a chance of the fingerprint/DNA samples being degraded? | 1  **Annotations:** |
| 72. Did analysis involve ‘cold’ match from a database or comparison against a suspect? | 1  **Annotations:** |
| 73. Did initial examination of sample lead to conclusion that origin could not be determined? | 1  **Annotations:** |
| 74. Did initial examination of sample lead to conclusion that sample originated from defendant? | 2  **Annotations:** |
| 75. Was sample re-examined? **75b.** If yes, did re-examination change initial conclusion? | Q75. 2  Q75b. 99  **Annotations:** |
| 76. Was fingerprint/DNA/Digital examiner opinion/conclusion verified by another examiner? | 2 |
| 77. For fingerprint examination, how many points of similarity were found (if any)? | 99 |
| 78. Was fingerprint/DNA/Digital evidence destroyed before trial? | 2  **Annotations:** |
| 79. Was concern expressed at original trial or appeal about the quality of notes taken/report of the fingerprint/DNA/Digital examiner? | 2 |
| **EVIDENTIARY STAGE (code as 99 if not stated and cannot be inferred)** | |
| **EXPERT TESTIMONY** |  |
| 80. Did (main) prosecution fingerprint/DNA/Digital expert present evidence at original trial? | 3  **Annotations:** |
| 81. Was concern expressed at original trial or appeal about the qualifications, knowledge, skills or experience of prosecution fingerprint/DNA/Digital expert(s)? | 2  **Annotations:** |
| 82. Was prosecution fingerprint/DNA/Digital expert witness cross-examined by defence at original trial? | 99  **Annotations:** |
| 83. Did (main) defence fingerprint/DNA/Digital expert present evidence at original trial? | 99  **Annotations:** |
| 84. Was concern expressed at original trial or appeal about the qualifications, knowledge, skills or experience of defence fingerprint/DNA/Digital expert(s)? | 2  **Annotations:** |
| 85. Was defence fingerprint/DNA/Digital expert witness cross-examined by prosecution at original trial? | 2  **Annotations:** |
| 86. Was there a disagreement in conclusions made by prosecution and defence fingerprint/DNA/Digital experts at original trial? | 2  **Annotations:** |
| 87. Was concern expressed at original trial or appeal about quality of prosecution expert reports? | 2 |
| 88. Was concern expressed at original trial or appeal about quality of defence expert reports? | 2 |
| 89. Were probabilities of fingerprint/DNA match mentioned at original trial? | 2  **Annotations:** |
| 90. Did fingerprint/DNA/Digital expert express his/her confidence in conclusion at original trial? **90b.** If yes, how? | Q90. 2  Q90b. 99  **Annotations:** |
| 91. For DNA evidence, were probabilities of match presented by prosecution expert at original trial? | 2 |
| 92. For DNA evidence, were contamination/error rates presented at original trial? | 2 |
| 93. For fingerprint evidence, did the prosecution expert declare a match/individualisation at original trial? | 1 |
| 94. For fingerprint evidence, how many points of similarity between sample and print were presented at original trial? | 99 |
| 95. For fingerprint evidence, were any points of dissimilarity presented at original trial? | 2 |
| 96. Did (prosecution or defence) fingerprint/DNA/Digital experts try to explain any inconsistencies in evidence at original trial? | 2 |
| 97. Was hearsay evidence presented at trial? | 1  **Annotations:** |
| 98. Was any bad character evidence presented at trial? | 1  **Annotations:** |
| 99. Did prosecution team fail to share relevant information with defence team before original trial? | 2  **Annotations:** |
| **JUDGE’S INSTRUCTIONS/JURY BEHAVIOR** |  |
| 100. Were visual images used to present fingerprint/DNA/Digital evidence at original trial? | 99 |
| 101. How did judge instruct jury to deal with fingerprint/DNA evidence? *Provide quote if short, otherwise summarise* | As to the significance of the Halifax envelope and the cigarette ends in relation to the appellant, the judge in his summing up said as follows: You are entitled to ask, members of the jury, whether the combined effect of the evidence connecting co-defendant with 364, the connection between 364 and – and the connection between 364 and 20 provided by the false teeth (from one of the victims), and the connection between the two defendants help you to assess the significance as against the [appellant] of the cigarette ends from 364 and his prints on the envelope. |
| **ADDITIONAL DIGITAL QUESTIONS** | |
| **APPEAL CASE/HEARING FACTORS (code as 99 if not stated and cannot be inferred)** | |
| 102. For Digital evidence, were any technical problems presented at the appeal hearing? If yes, what? *Provide a quote if short, otherwise summarise* | Q102: 99  Q102b: 99 |
| **DIGITAL - INVESTIGATIVE STAGE (code as 99 if not stated and cannot be inferred)** | |
| **COLLECTION** | |
| 103. For Digital evidence, was concern expressed at original trial about problems securing the data? | 99 |
| 104. For Digital evidence were there any concerns about data being missed during investigation? | 99 |
| 105. For Digital evidence, was any data hidden over the network? | 99 |
| 106. For Digital evidence was any data hidden inside storage areas to make them invisible to the system commands and programs? | 99 |
| 107. For Digital evidence, was any data corrupted? | 99 |
| 108. For Digital evidence, was there any residual data wiping? | 99 |
| 109. For Digital evidence, was concern expressed at the original trial or appeal about data sources being damaged? | 99 |
| **ANALYSIS** | |
| 110. For Digital evidence was any data encrypted? | 99 |
| 111. For Digital evidence was any data hidden in a carrier file without modifying its outward appearance? | 99 |
| 112. For Digital evidence, was any techniques used to obfuscate the source of the attack? | 99 |
| 113. For Digital evidence, did the investigator have to analyse high volumes of data? | 99 |
| 114. For Digital evidence, were the investigators restricted to analysing only recent data stored on volatile memory? | 99 |
| 115. Were there any Co-defendants? 115b. If yes, how many? | Q115. 2  Q115b. 99 |
| 116. Where the case involved co-defendant/s, was there a mixed verdict? 116b. If Yes, what were the verdicts? | Q116. 99  Q116b. 99 |
| **NOTES – PLEASE WRITE ANYTHING THAT YOU THINK IS IMPORTANT BUT WHICH IS NOT CODED ABOVE. THIS MAY INCLUDE QUOTES.** | This was the appellants second appeal against conviction it was brought by the Criminal Cases Review Commission in light of fresh DNA evidence which was not obtained at the time of the trial. Defence also advanced a ground of appeal, asking the court to receive fresh psychiatric evidence about a prosecution witness. This appeal case comes 14 years after the index offence was committed. According to para 55 the prosecution had given disclosure to the defence of reports from a psychiatrist and psychologist on a witness who provided evidence against the appellant. The material in the psychiatrist’s report was used by defence in their cross examination to show that the witness lacked credibility and that he was “inconsistent and inherently unlikely." Para 13. The case against the appellant comprised evidence of four kinds – circumstantial evidence, forensic evidence, lies and admissions. At the original trial there was no DNA evidence to connect either defendant with the cigarette ends found at the crime scene. Para 35 since the trial there have been advances in scientific techniques. There is no fresh evidence about the cigarette end found in the glass of water in the hall, because any DNA traces would have been washed away, but there is now DNA evidence about the other cigarette ends found at the sisters' house. Despite the fresh DNA evidence, the appellant court did not consider the appellant's convictions to be unsafe and the appeal was therefore dismissed |