



press release

JOHN REANEY –V- THE HEREFORD DIOCESE AND BOARD OF FINANCE - EMPLOYMENT TRIBUNAL, CARDIFF, 4TH, 5TH, 16TH AND 17TH APRIL 2007.

John Reaney's lawyer Alison Downie, Partner at Bindman & Partners solicitors said

"My client is a committed Christian who has devoted his life to sharing his Christian faith with others.

He regrets having to bring this claim, which is supported by Stonewall, but he felt he had no option. The Church discriminated against him on the grounds of his sexual orientation when the Bishop of Hereford refused to confirm his appointment to a post. He feels he has been denied the opportunity to contribute to the work of the Church.

In our view the legal protection for gay people is robust and the Church is not entitled to claim any exemption from that protection for such a post.

We are certain the Tribunal will deal with this case fairly after hearing what the Bishop has to say in Holy Week".

The hearing of John Reaney's claim commences in the Employment Tribunal Cardiff on Wednesday the 4th April 2007 and continues on the 5th April, and subsequently on the 16th and 17th April 2007.

Counsel instructed is Sandhya Drew of Toops Chambers.

For further information please contact:

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Nick Martin, Chief Executive
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Bindman & Partners was founded in 1974 by a small group of Solicitors specialising in civil liberties and the rights of the individual. While the firm has grown over the years to its present size of 14 Partners and 65 other staff, these core values have remained at the heart of the firm and its work, and Bindmans continues to be regarded as one of the country's leading civil rights practices.

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