

CHAPTER 24
SECTION 7REQUESTS BY THE MEDIA OR
LINKED TO MEDIA CAMPAIGNS

1. JOURNALISTS AND REPORTERS

All enquiries by the media about individual cases should be referred to Press Office, in Communications Directorate (CD). Officers who receive telephone calls from reporters must tell them to contact CD on 020 7273 4545. Care should be taken to avoid being drawn into any discussion. CD should be informed immediately of the enquiry and given the details of the case.

2. PUTTING THE RECORD STRAIGHT

CD does not disclose details about individual cases **unless** an applicant or someone acting on his or her behalf has chosen to make public details of his case and allegations about their consideration. In such circumstances and **only** in response to enquiries, it is the practice to give information to set the record straight and, as made clear by the then Home Secretary in a PQ answer dated 14 December 1992, to "stop silly and unfounded rumours". Such disclosure is a matter for CD and **not** individual caseworkers.

3. THIRD PARTIES WITH A GRIEVANCE ABOUT IMMIGRATION CAUSE
CELEBRES

We frequently receive letters from individuals or MPs complaining about cases which are reported in the media. In replying to such correspondence and in accordance with paragraph 2 above, officers should not comment on individual cases **unless** an applicant or his or her representative has chosen to make public details of their case and allegations about their consideration. If this does not apply, a general reply setting out the relevant policy considerations, can be helpful.