

CHELTENHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

STATEMENT OF WITNESS

**(Criminal Procedure Rules, 2005 r27.1(1);
Criminal Justice Act 1967, s.9 Magistrates' Courts Act 1980,s. 5B)**

Statement of [REDACTED]

Age of witness: Over 18

Occupation of witness: N/A

This statement consisting of 2 pages (signed by me) is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.

Dated: 7th November 2022

Signed: [REDACTED]

At about 1340hrs on Thursday 29th September 2022, I was sat in the front of my parked vehicle in Tesco's Car Park, Colletts Drive, Cheltenham. I had a clear and unobstructed view of parking bays designated for the charging of electric vehicles approximately 10 metres away. These bays are situated at the edge of the car park adjacent to Gloucester Road and there is clear signage that states these bays are for "Electric Charging Only". I believe all these designated bays were occupied at this time.

I saw of an orange car, HG66AXA, which had Spa-Tax livery on the front passenger door, pull up sharply, diagonally behind a small blue car, which was occupying the final electric charging bay, next to a pedestrian access onto Gloucester Road.

The driver of the Spa-Tax car was a white male, approximately 40 years old and of athletic build (Male 1). He got out of his vehicle and approached the driver's door of the parked blue car saying "move, move, move" in a loud and aggressive manner. The driver of the

Signed: [REDACTED]

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blue car got out and a scuffle started between the two men. I describe the driver of the blue car as a white male, late teens / early 20's with dark hair (Male 2). At this stage I switched my engine on and started my dashcam to record the incident. I now produce a copy of that dashcam recording (Exhibit DH1).

During the scuffle I saw Male 1 punch Male 2 in the face on at least two occasions, after which Male 2 returned to his car and drove away. Male 1 then reversed into the vacated electric charging bay and parked.

Approximately 10 minutes later I saw Male 2 walking across the carpark towards the electric charging bays. He was carrying something in his left hand but I cannot say what it was. As Male 2 approached, Male 1 got out of his car and Male 2 appeared to be using a mobile phone. It looked as if Male 2 was initially taking photographs, then making a phone call.

Approximately 5 minutes later two Police vehicles arrived and Police Officers spoke to both men. I approached the Police and told them what I had seen and provided them with my dashcam footage.

I do not know Male 1 or Male 2 but believe I would recognise them both again. Although Male 1's vehicle was stopped between me and Male 2's vehicle, I still had a clear view of the initial scuffle due to the raised seating position in my vehicle.

It is my opinion that Male 1 was the instigator and aggressor of this incident. I have reported it to the council as I believe it could have turned into a serious incident and question whether this taxi driver is a fit and proper person to drive the public and to represent Cheltenham Borough Council.

Signed: 

Date: 7th November 2022