

Witness Statement

Statement of PC 2309 SANSOM

WITNESS STATEMENT

Criminal Procedure Rules, r 27. 2; Criminal Justice Act 1967, s. 9; Magistrates' Courts Act 1980, s.5B

URN

--	--	--	--

Statement of: **PC 2309 Jeremy Sansom**Age if under 18: *OVER 18*

Occupation: Police Constable

This statement (consisting of **2** page(s) each 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.

Signature:  (witness) Date: **28-01-25**

I am the above named Police Constable currently employed by Gloucestershire Constabulary. My current role within the police is that of the Police Licensing Officer and I cover the areas of Cheltenham and Tewkesbury. I am currently based at based at Hucclecote Police Station in Gloucester.

On Thursday 23rd January 2025 I was on duty, my working shift being 08:00hrs concluding at 16:00HRS.

On the above date at about 12:10 PM I attended Bargain Booze, Hewlett Road, Cheltenham and upon entering the premises I could see the store was open, with numerous aisles of alcohol on display for sale.

I started to take some pictures on my police mobile device and after a few minutes I saw Mrs. Dalwinder Kaur, upon seeing me she immediately recognised me and said;

“ HELLO, HOW ARE YOU “

We spoke for a few moments and I asked MRS Kaur when they started selling alcohol as I did not believe they should be selling any as they had no Designated Premises Supervisor (DPS) in place, and had not had a DPS since the hearing back in September. MRS Kaur stated that they had the new licence and they were told they could sell alcohol by their uncle who had represented them and she believed they opened back up with sales of alcohol around November time.

At this point I asked to see the premises licence and the part B showing who the new DPS was.

MRS Kaur started to look through her paperwork behind the till, and produced a document to me of her daughter's personal licence course pass certificate. I explained this was not the premises licence and I again explained what the premises licence is. MRS Kaur did not seem to understand what was required of her.

I explained that they are required to apply for a change of DPS through the Local Authority (LA) Licensing Team in Cheltenham and needed to make payment so a new premises licence could be issued in the new DPS name and this needed to be actioned prior to any alcohol being sold. I explained this had not taken place as any change of DPS is sent to me, and while in situ, I contacted Michelle Bignell, the Licensing manager at Cheltenham Borough Council (CBC) who confirmed no variation to the DPS had been applied for and therefore the premises was in breach of their premises licence.

MRS KAUR contacted her daughter who arrived in the store at 12:20PM. Her daughter MRS Navjinder Kaur also reiterated what her mother had explained to me and Navjinder said her uncle had sorted everything out and gave them the go ahead to start selling alcohol on 4th November 2024.

Signature: 

Signature Witnessed by: _____

Witness StatementStatement of PC 2309 SANSOM

Navjinder called her uncle on the phone and then asked me to speak with him I believe his name is Mr Surendra Panchal. On the call Mr. Panchal tried to say he had submitted the application months ago and would go through his paperwork. I asked for him to email me evidence that the change of DPS application had been applied for and who it had been sent to. This was not forthcoming.

Both Navjinder and Dalwinder were adamant their solicitor had sorted it. I explained that it's also the licence holder's responsibility to ensure the premises is complying with their licence requirements prior to any licensable activities taking place. I also explained that I didn't believe the change of DPS had been applied for and I explained I would attend CBC and ask for one of the team to make contact with Navjinder and that they must not sell any more alcohol until the local authority have emailed them confirming they can.

I asked MRS Dalwinder Kaur to print me a receipt showing the last alcohol sale they made. I have produced this as my evidence at the end of this statement.

Rather than removing all the alcohol from the display, Navjinder decided to lock the store until the LA had spoken with her and confirmed they can sell alcohol again.

I arrived at the CBC Licensing office at approximately 14:50hrs where I was informed a new change of DPS application had been submitted and paid for on this day.

The photos I took inside the premises on my police mobile device I produce as my exhibits as follows:

- 2309/JS01 – Left aisle of alcohol
- 2309/JS02 – Close up of left aisle
- 2309/JS03 – Middle section of alcohol
- 2309/JS04 – Right aisle of alcohol
- 2309/JS05 – Boxes of alcohol by till and spirits behind counter
- 2309/JS06 – Shopping trolley with £1 single cans and bottles of alcohol for sale.

I also produce the receipt showing the sale of alcohol as my exhibit 2309/JS07 – Receipt.

Signature: 

Signature Witnessed by: _____