

## WITNESS STATEMENT

Criminal Procedure Rules, r 16.2; Criminal Justice Act 1967, s. 9

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Statement of: DC KATZ 41613

Age if under 18: *(if over 18 insert 'over 18')*

Occupation: Police Officer

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: *[Handwritten Signature]* (witness) 41613

Date: 12/04/22

I am a police officer working out of Guildford CID investigating serious crimes. On 9<sup>th</sup> September 2021 there was a very serious incident that occurred outside The Leathern Bottle Public House. Witnesses indicated that an altercation started inside the pub and then the suspect took the matter outside. This incident involved weapons, criminal damage and physical injuries to several parties. This incident attracted national press coverage and fortuitously it did not end in a fatality.

As part of my investigation I approached the Leathern Bottle manager Karen SIMMONS to assist with CCTV enquires and to provide a statement. On 09/09/21 I attended the pub with DC Pedreira and spoke to SIMMONS inside the pub. She appeared to be vague about their CCTV and how it worked, saying that she would need assistance from someone else who knew how to work it. She looked on her phone for several minutes before giving her statement and was trying to locate files but was unable. She agreed to send it as soon as she had some help from her son.

SIMMONS did not provide anything for several days so was called by PC41450 to chase this up. She was asked again to review any clips from that night from the moment the suspects entered the premises, to the moment after they left following the altercation and send all of these to myself.

Despite multiple phone calls from myself to SIMMONS to obtain any footage I was eventually supplied with a short clip of 30 seconds and on 16/09/21 SIMMONDS confirmed that she had no more CCTV to send.

SIMMONS is aware the clip she provided is only 30 seconds in length and she has advised this is due to her internal CCTV system being a ring doorbell, which records a 30 second clip when it senses motion. This lack of adequate CCTV has significantly hindered my investigation and it is hard to understand how a motion censored camera can only capture 30 seconds of footage from an entire evening when there would have been multiple times it would have been triggered by motion inside the pub.

The clip supplied to police shows a scene of several males standing at the bar drinking and chatting. One of these males was the 17 year old key suspect. There was no footage supplied of them entering

the pub, purchasing drinks, the lead up to the altercation, any offences committed and the individuals leaving the premises.

It is my understanding that a pub manager should be competent to work the CCTV cameras in the pub and be able to supply police footage on request as part of the licence. I do not believe that a Ring doorbell is at all adequate for a CCTV system.

In addition in her statement she states that she left the pub for a period of time with her husband despite her husband having "a feeling that something wasn't right as most of our customers are regulars and we hadn't seen these males before". Some regulars were asked to help keep an eye on things and it was these individuals who became involved in the incident.

My investigation has been undermined by the poor support for a very serious incident which involved customers of the pub. I would have expected any pub manager to understand the seriousness of the incident and to provide all the assistance needed as requested by the police.

Signature:

*J Katz 4/6/18*

Signature witnessed by: