

STATEMENT OF WITNESS

*(Criminal Procedure Rules, Rule 16.2,
Criminal Justice Act 1967, s. 9)*

STATEMENT OF: [REDACTED]

Age of witness (if over 18, enter "over 18"):

Occupation of Witness: Trading Standards 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.

Dated the 3rd day of March 2022

Signed [REDACTED]

I am a Trading Standards Officer employed by West Sussex County Council. On the 25th January 2022 I visited Clifton Food and Wine, 123 Clifton Road, Worthing, West Sussex following a complaint that the shop was selling e-cigarettes to children. I spoke to the shop owner, [REDACTED]. I told [REDACTED] that we had received a complaint about the sale of disposable e-cigarettes to children. [REDACTED] disputed this and said he always asks for ID. I asked to see the refusals register and saw that the most recent entry was October 2020. I advised [REDACTED] to ensure that he checks ID when he suspects customers are under 18 and attempting to purchase age restricted products and to keep a record of such challenges in the refusal register. I spoke to [REDACTED] about the challenge 25 policy. I advised that [REDACTED] could ask customers to remove their face masks if he needed to verify their age and ID. There was another man with [REDACTED] in the shop who was explaining to Mr [REDACTED] the advice I had given to him, in another language. I left a visit form confirming the advice. On the 23rd February 2022, I took part in an underage sales operation accompanied by my two colleagues Dawn Dowling, a Trading Standards Officer and [REDACTED] a Senior Trading Standards Officer. An underage volunteer was also present during the operation and worked under the guidance of Trading Standards Officers. The purpose of the operation was to ensure West Sussex businesses were

compliant in that they were not selling age restricted products to children under the age of 18.

At approximately 2.50pm, I witnessed [REDACTED] enter Clifton Food and Wine, shortly after, the volunteer also entered the shop. A few minutes later, I saw the volunteer come out of the shop holding two bottles of Blue WKD. The volunteer passed the two bottles to me, which I placed in an evidence bag with the reference number MC00110115. I then saw [REDACTED] come out of the shop and we all returned to the car. I handed the evidence bag with the alcohol to [REDACTED]. I returned to the shop with Ms [REDACTED], and I saw her explain the reason for our visit. I saw that [REDACTED] was working behind the counter, I then saw [REDACTED] caution [REDACTED] and proceeded to ask a number of questions about the sale of alcohol. I also saw Ms [REDACTED] record the questions and answers in her note book.

Statement obtained by (print name):

Witness details

Address: Trading Standards, Parkside, Chart Way, Horsham, West Sussex, RH12 1XH

Email address: [REDACTED]

Mobile number:

Other number(s): [REDACTED]

Date and place of birth: [REDACTED]

Maiden name:

Dates to be avoided. Delete dates of non-availability of witness:

Month of :							Month of :							Month of :						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31					29	30	31					29	30	31				
Month of :							Month of :							Month of :						
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8	9	10	11	12	13	14	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31					29	30	31					29	30	31				

Contact details if different from above

Address:

Email address:

Mobile number:

Other number(s):

CRIMINAL PROCEDURE AND INVESTIGATIONS ACT 1996

Record below anything that may affect the credibility of the person making this statement, e.g.; previous convictions, relationship to defendant. If there is nothing state 'none' below.

None

Dated the 3rd day of March 2022

Signed [REDACTED]