

WITNESS STATEMENT

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

URN

Statement of: Chris Stockman

Age if under 18: over 18 (if over 18 insert 'over 18') Occupation: Police Officer

This statement (consisting of 1 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.

Witness Signature: *C. Stockman* Date: 11/11/2022

I am PC Christopher Stockman and I have been a Police Officer with the Metropolitan Police Service for over 19 years. I am currently attached to Havering Police Licensing Team, on the East Area Basic Command Unit and have been in post for the past 8 months.

This is an additional statement regarding an incident that occurred at Array on Saturday 5th November 2022, whereby a stabbing occurred outside the premises. **(CRIS 5419395/22 and CAD 395/05NOV22 refers)**

On Saturday 5th November 2022, victim attended Bayou and left the premises with a friend. As they were leaving the car park at around 0110 hours an altercation occurred with two groups who were parked up outside the venue. This resulted in the victim being stabbed. Suspects had not been inside the venue prior to the incident. However, the suspects had been seen by security using nitrox oxide balloons prior to the incident and were challenged by the security.

The fight spilt out into the road which caused a passing vehicle to break and stop.

I was on duty as the licensing officer on the 5th November 2022. Following this incident I rang and spoke to the Licence Holder and DPS Mr Nadir Gul. I advised that due to the serious nature of the incident and the fact that his premises were being reviewed he should consider a voluntary closure for the weekend. Mr Gul agreed to this and confirmed it in an email I received on the 5th November at 1822 hours. **(See exhibit CJS/1)**

Myself and PC Dunn attended the venue shortly after where MR Gul confirmed he had closed the venue for the weekend. Whilst at the premises we viewed the CCTV and Mr Gul highlighted his concerns about the clientele attending the shisha lounge. He went on to state that perhaps Bayou should be a venue where breakfast and lunch is served.

On Monday 7th November 2022, Police had further discussions via email with the licence holder and they confirmed in writing that the shisha business will cease with immediate effect. **(See exhibit CJS/2)**

The Metropolitan Police considered a summary review under Section 53A of the Licensing Act 2003, but felt that the decision to remove the shisha as a business model at this time and based on the information we currently have, would alleviate the concerns around the clientele attending.

Therefore, the Metropolitan Police would invite the sub-committee imposing a condition to prevent the use of shisha on the premises.

Witness Signature: *C. Stockman*

Signature Witnessed by Signature: