

WITNESS STATEMENT

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

URN

--	--	--	--

Statement of: Alexander BRAND PC174QA

Age if under 18: Over 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.

Witness Signature:  PC174QA Date: 04/11/2016

This statement refers to two (2) tours of duty over the space of a week where I dealt with incidents at THE SHAFTESBURY Public House, Shaftesbury Circle, South Harrow.

The first incident I will refer to, on THURSDAY the 27th of OCTOBER 2016, I was on duty in full uniform posted single crewed to a marked police vehicle, call sign QA81N. At approximately 0200hrs, a call was circulated over the radio to say that there were approximately thirty to forty (30-40) drunk travellers at THE SHAFTESBURY Public house, refusing to leave and causing problems. We were very short of units that night, and knowing that there were lots of people there likely to cause problems when the police arrived, it took about forty five (45) minutes to get several units to go at once to deal with the situation safely. The informant had called back a couple of times in the meantime to say they were hiding in a back room as the travellers were very aggressive and coming behind the bar. By the time myself, a van unit and Mr. Hyde the duty inspector that night, arrived, the majority appeared to have left and got in taxis on Shaftesbury Circle. There were maybe ten (10) males and females left inside, all highly intoxicated and taking their time to leave. When I walked in the pub, I could immediately see that there had been disorder in there. The tables and chairs were all over the place and there were what looked like dozens of smashed bottles all over the floor. There were also numerous open cans of lager on the tables that I assume people had brought in themselves without purchasing at the bar. The only member of staff we saw to start with was someone who I believe is called Tracey DALEY, approx. fifty (50) years of age, female, IC1, approx. F504 who is a bar maid and lives at 3A Shaftesbury Circle, above the pub. It took approximately ten (10) minutes to get everyone out and it was clear that the bar maid was drunk – she was hugging a drunk traveller female for about five (5) minutes singing a song about roses. Almost as soon as they left, a male appeared who I know as Craig DANIEL, approximately fifty (50) years of age, male, IC1, approx. F509 also of 3A Shaftesbury Circle, above the pub. He is of very slim build, wears thick glasses, has short grey hair and speaks with a very distinctive South African accent. I initially thought he was one of the punters as he was also extremely drunk and not very well dressed at all – he was a complete state. He went off and spoke to Mr. Hyde about the situation that night so I did not have much to do with him. However, I saw enough of him to see that he was in no fit state to be running a pub and possessing a licence to sell alcohol, being very drunk himself. He was totally incapable of managing the situation he had found himself in due to his drunkenness, and appeared to have gone to hide until police arrived. He was spoken to for approximately five (5) minutes in private by the Inspector before things were wrapped up, we

Witness Signature: PC A BRAND 174QA.....

Signature Witnessed by Signature:  PC174QA.....

Continuation of Statement of: Alexander BRAND PC174QA
left and the pub was locked up. Unfortunately I do not have any reference numbers for the incident.

The second incident I shall refer to happened on TUESDAY the 1st of NOVEMBER 2016 at approximately 1300hrs. On the day in question, I was on duty in full uniform posted to a marked police vehicle, call sign QA22E, in company with PC MEYER 125QA. At this time, again, a call was circulated over the radio to THE SHAFTESBURY public house, this time to a male who had seen another male trying to gain entry to the pub through the rear doors. He had called the licencing officer, PC MORAN, who had circulated it on the radio for units to attend. I do not know the reference number for the call. We arrived a short time after Q3E crewed by PC HARDING 206QA, who had not gained entry to the pub as it was locked. After approximately five (5) minutes, the informant opened the doors and let us in. As soon as I walked through, the place smelled very strongly of stale cigarette smoke and I could straight away see that the informant looked to be pretty much sleeping rough on a bench in the corner of the pub by the sound system. There were a couple of blankets and sleeping bags piled up – it looked like what you would expect to see in the doorway of a shop in central London where homeless people lived. Equally, the person who opened the door, who I recognised to again be Mr. Craig DANIEL looked awful. He looked like a homeless person, with dirty, poor fitting clothes, he was very pale and from how he was slurring his words and staggering, appeared very drunk. We established the reason he called was because he thought a male was upstairs in the flat, however when we went up there, nobody was there. While we were working out what had happened, I had watched Mr. Daniel while he was alone and he was rocking forwards and backwards in his seat talking to himself – he again did not seem well enough to go out and about, let alone run a pub and hold an alcohol licence. After approximately twenty (20) minutes of being there, the licencing officer PC MORAN arrived with a PCSO, and they seized the CCTV machine, informing Mr. Daniel that he could not open the pub again for the time being. Mr. Daniel did not seem bothered, just repeating over and over that he was cold and that he thought he was going to die he was so cold. We eventually left him upstairs in the flat, going to sleep on a mattress on the floor, with MS. DALEY also in the flat.

I am also aware from the daily briefing that there had been an extremely large disturbance on the night of 28-29/10/2016 where officers from other boroughs had to assist with removing drunk crowds from the pub/area and several arrests were made.

Both times I dealt with Mr. Daniel, he did not seem at all fit to be running a pub. The second time I saw him, it was clear he was struggling even to look after himself. He was very intoxicated both times and also showed possible signs of mental health problems. In my opinion he should not be holding a licence in the state he is in at the moment and I believe all the problems we have had with the pub recently are due to him being drunk at work and not being able to run or manage the pub or its customers properly.

Alexander Brand PC174 QA

_____ AB

Witness Signature:PC A BRAND 174QA.....

Signature Witnessed by Signature:.....
Alexander Brand PC174 QA .