

## WITNESS STATEMENT

Crime Number:.....

**Criminal Procedure Rules, r 27.2; Criminal Justice Act 1967, s. 9; Magistrates' Courts Act 1980, s.5B**

URN

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Statement of: Charlene Janet BOOTH .....

Age if under 18: Over 18..... (if over 18 insert 'over 18') Occupation: Police Constable 7308 .....

This statement (consisting of Two 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: [REDACTED] ..... Date 12<sup>th</sup> October 2022 .....

Tick if witness evidence is visually recorded  (supply witness details on rear)

I am PC 7308 Booth of the West Midlands Police currently stationed as Bilston Street Police Station.

On FRIDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> SEPTEMBER 2022 I on duty in full uniform and in company with PC 23976 ALI. At this time, I was attached to the ETTINGSHALL Neighbourhood Team as a neighbourhood officer.

We were tasked with supporting Wolverhampton City Council, Trading Standards and Home Office Immigration Enforcement with a pre-planned operation targeting the sale of illicit tobacco at various locations within Wolverhampton.

At approximately 1000 hours we attended PHOENIX EXPRESS 715 PARKFIELD ROAD WOLVERHAMPTON WV4 6EE. This shop sells a variety of grocery items as well as cigarettes and alcohol.

A full search of the premises was led and conducted by Trading Standards and a trained detection dog handler which was organised by Trading Standards.

A quantity of tobacco and vaping products were seized by Trading Standards. Some of the tobacco was found concealed by a mirror within in a rear room of the property. A vehicle parked on the car park to the rear of the store and registered to the premises contained a quantity of the illicit products.



WITNESS STATEMENT

Criminal Procedure Rules, r 27.2; Criminal Justice Act-1967, s. 9; Magistrates' Courts Act 1980, s.5B

Crime No. [ ]

URN [ ]

Statement of BILAL ALI

Age if under 18 over 18 (if over 18 insert "over 18")

Occupation Police Constable

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.

Signature: [Redacted]

(witness)

Date 12/10/2022

Tick if witness evidence is visually recorded  (supply witness details on rear)

I am PC 23976 ALI of WEST MIDLANDS POLICE, currently stationed at BILSTON POLICE STATION.

On FRIDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> SEPTEMBER 2022 I was on full uniformed patrol alongside my colleague PC 7308 BOOTH.

On this day we were tasked with supporting WOLVERHAMPTON City Council, Trading Standards and Home Office Immigration Enforcement. This was a pre-planned operation to target the sale of illegal tobacco products in shops across the WOLVERHAMPTON area. We attended the CIVIC CENTRE in WOLVERHAMPTON at 09:30 hours.

Following this we attended the first location at approximately 1000 hours which was PHEONIX EXPRESS located at 715 PARKFIELD ROAD, WOLVERHAMPTON, WV4 6EE. A full search of the shop was conducted by present agencies and a trained dog which was organised by the Trading Standards Team.

Following the search an unknown quantity of vapes and tobacco was seized by the Trading Standard Officers. This was concealed at various different areas of the shop. This included the vaping products located behind the counter, more vaping products located on the top shelf in boxes of crips, tobacco concealed in a mirror at the rear of the property. More tobacco products were located in the rear car park in a car which had been parked there and used by the store. This vehicle was registered to the shop address. Immigration officers also had dealing with a male who was present in the shop however I have no knowledge of the discussion between the two, however, the male was told to leave the premises by the Immigration officers.

We then attended other locations in WOLVERHAMPTON where further products were seized.

I had no further dealings with this operation.

Signature [Redacted]

Signature witnessed by .....

