

### WITNESS STATEMENT

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

URN

Statement of:

Age if under 18: over 18 (if over 18 insert 'over 18') Occupation: Detective Constable

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.

Witness Signature: ..... Date: 23/09/2021

This statement refers to attempts made to secure CCTV footage from VIP Lounge HIGH ROAD WEMBLEY HA0.

My name is  and I am employed as a Detective Constable in the Metropolitan Police Service currently based at Wembley Police Station.

On Sunday 25 July 2021 I was made aware of an incident involving a victim who had sustained injuries amounting to grievous bodily harm following an assault. External CCTV enquires were carried out with Brent council and it was established that the victim of this assault had left the venue VIP High Road Wembley at around 2am and later found on Montrose Ave junc of Ealing Road where he was treated by LAS and taken to St Mary’s Hospital.

It wasn’t clear where the assault had taken place but it didn’t look like anything had occurred outside the venue as the cameras hadn’t picked up an altercation outside.

It was thought that perhaps the incident had occurred inside the venue he had left. I tried calling the venue but the number on the website was in correct. I then made my way to the venue but it was closed.

I returned to the office and found the premises licence for the venue on Brent Council’s website. Having reviewed this I noted that they had to keep their CCTV for 31 days and that it needed to be in working order with any faults documented.

I visited the venue a couple of times after the 24th July but I can not be exact with dates, however on each visit it was closed.

On 24th August I realised I was running out of time to secure the CCTV so I made contact with Brent Police Licensing asking for a contact number for the venue. PC Gary NORTON got back to me straight away with a number for Darren JULES the Designated Premises Supervisor. I called the mobile number and Darren answered. I explained that I needed to review their CCTV cameras for the 24th July going into 25th July. Darren said he would make his way over to the venue to secure the footage. I left him my number to call me back to arrange viewing it but didn’t hear anything back. I then tried chasing this however Darren’s phone was either switched off or it would just ring out.

I asked for the footage to be secured within the time parameters that the venue are expected to keep their CCTV and I have been informed by Brent Police Licensing that the footage has not been secured which leads me to question why that is.

Witness Signature: .....

Signature Witnessed by Signature: .....

Continuation of Statement of:

Prior to transferring to Wembley Police Station I use to work in the borough of Camden where there is a large night time economy. I worked in the Police Licensing Unit there for three years. From experience of working in the realms of licensing, venues who fail to provide CCTV in incidents such as this are usually attempting to hide their shortfalls.

CCTV is often used as preventative measure but often it is also there to protect venues. It's not uncommon for a serious assault to occur in a licensed club when patrons have had too much to drink and there judgement is somewhat clouded and leads to a fight breaking out. The expectation is always that the venue act appropriately and responsibly which when recorded on their CCTV cameras can be used to demonstrate this.

I'm aware that by the time I spoke with Mr JULES there was only a few hours left before the CCTV expired nevertheless as I have pointed out it was asked for within the time parameters and I was ensured that this would be done. However it wasn't and so therefore on this occasion the venue have not adhered to their premises licence conditions.

Witness Signature: .....

Signature Witnessed by Signature:.....