

WITNESS STATEMENT

CJ Act 1967, s.9; MC Act 1980, ss.5A(3)(a) and 5B; Criminal Procedure Rules 2005, Rule 27.1

Statement of Colin Hobday 395QK..... URN:


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Age if under 18 **Over 18**..... (if over 18 insert 'over 18') Occupation: **Police Constable 52/204140**

This statement (consisting of: 1..... pages 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 anything in it which I know to be false, or do not believe to be true.

Signature:  Date: 04/11/2016Tick if witness evidence is visually recorded ☐ (supply witness details on rear)

I am Pc Colin Hobday. My shoulder number 395QK. I currently work in the safer neighbourhoods unit and am attached to the Northwick Park Safer Neighbourhoods Team. I have been a constable for the last 15 years. I have been on the Northwick Park Safer Neighbourhoods team since June 2015.

This statement relates to ongoing street drinking concerns in the East Lane area of Wembley and the objection to a further - sale of alcohol licence application by 189 EAST LANE. As soon as I joined the SNT team, and learned what the local quality of life complaints were from local residents, one that came to my attention and professional knowledge was a long term street drinking problem in the East Lane area. I am aware there are four licensing venues and two bookmakers already in the shopping parade of East Lane in that locality. Since becoming a member of the Northwick Park SNT, and working with colleagues who had been on the ward for a longer period of time than myself, it soon became apparent that the street drinking issue in the East Lane area was a main ward based complaint made by residents to their local safer neighbourhoods team. On my patrols in the last 16 months, I have had countless dealing with a hard core element of street drinkers who appear to be the same persons on a regular basis, who buy the alcohol from the local establishments and stand in a public car park, or at the public bus stop on East Lane drinking alcohol for long lengths of time, day and night, and all weathers, be it in the summer, with longer evenings, and also towards the winter as the nights draw in. It was only a week previous to this statement that I was present and as per the borough licensing policy for drinking in public, had to pour away alcohol from "open vessels/cans of beer" that were being drunk openly in public. The males in these groups on occasion are reported to have unriated against the fences in the car park area and discard the empty beer cans unsociably across the floor and stuffed into gaps in the wooden fence of the car park without thought for others. The complaints received are from all members of the community and it is an openly visible area where the males drink and can be seen by young and old alike when shopping in the local stores. It can be an eyesore and unattractive and intimidating to the passers by. From my professional perspective, having to manage the current street drinking issue, with already four venues serving "off licence" alcohol and drinkers consuming the alcohol in close location to those serving the alcohol, I strongly object to a further venue asking for a licence to sell alcohol in that small shopping parade already well serviced with sales of alcohol readily available. 

Signature:  Signature witnessed by: