

WITNESS STATEMENT

Criminal Procedure Rules, r 16.2; Criminal Justice Act 1967, s.9

URN

Occurrence Number: 47190196542

Statement of: SCOTT ELLIOTT

Age if under 18: Over 18 *(if over 18 insert 'over 18')* Occupation: Police Constable CE179

This statement (consisting of three 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:  #CE179 ELLIOTT, S.

Date: 01/12/2019 10:37

Tick if witness evidence is visually recorded

On THURSDAY 14 NOVEMBER 2019, I was on duty in HASTINGS. At about 19:00hrs, I attended a briefing at HASTINGS police station. A number of my colleagues were also there, including PS CB212 BARDEN, PC CF902 FREEMAN, PC CL088 LAWS, PC CM482 MENDES, PC CD102 DAVEY and some other officers. Also in the briefing was Immigration Enforcement Team. It was explained in the briefing that there was a Warrant which we were going to execute at OCEAN SPICE, HASTINGS. The Warrant was to search of illegal workers and those unlawfully present in the UK. There were about 15-20 officers attending the location in total. We were advised that the people within OCEAN SPICE are very aggressive, volatile and confrontational. We made our way to the location shortly after briefing.

At approximately 19:40hrs, we parked our vehicles in CAMBRIDGE ROAD and walked down the steps towards CLAREMONT. We walked along the front of OCEAN SPICE. Officers were running ahead of me. I looked through the restaurant window where I could see people running through to the back of the restaurant, these people were not officers from SUSSEX POLICE or Immigration Enforcement. Officers ran into the restaurant. I was tasked with running down the side of the restaurant which leads to the rear. I followed officers into the building. It was very congested with people and I could hear a lot of shouting within the premises. I was held waiting for a couple of minutes due to the amount of people in the premises. By the time I got into the premises, one male was stood in handcuffs. I now know this male to be Rahman MOMINUR, MOMINUR was very agitated, shouting at officers. After a short while, MOMINUR was taken upstairs where about ten other members of the restaurant were. I went upstairs also where MOMINUR's aggressive behaviour continued. After ten minutes or so, MOMINUR calmed down slightly and the Enforcement Officer removed the handcuffs. MOMINUR then went downstairs whilst I waited upstairs with the other people present. After a couple of minutes, I heard shouting coming from downstairs so I went downstairs also. I then saw MOMINUR shouting and swearing in the restaurant. There were a couple of people from the restaurant filming the incident on their mobile phones.

PC FREEMAN then arrested MOMINUR. A prison van was requested to attend as soon as possible. After a short while, myself and PC FREEMAN walked MOMINUR out of the restaurant. He continued to shout loudly. We walked MOMINUR to the prison van. As we did this, another male who I now know to be Saddiqur RAHMAN (27yrs) approached us and was getting in our way. He was shouting at us and making it difficult for us to walk MOMINUR to the van. I was mindful that there were now a lot of people around us and we were in the street. I put my hand out towards Saddiqur RAHMAN (27yrs) to create a safe distance between us as I felt that he may try to attack me. He was shouting something like "GET YOUR HANDS OFF ME, DON'T TOUCH ME". At this point, PC CF186 FRENCH arrived to assist. This allowed us to place MOMINUR into the rear of the prison van. Once he was in the van, it drove away from the location. I followed officers back to the restaurant. Saddiqur RAHMAN was on the door to the premises where he was involved in a short argument with officers. We went back into the premises. Also in the premises was Saddiqur RAHMAN (53yrs). Whilst in the premises, I became aware of a further scuffle between Saddiqur RAHMAN (27yrs) and officers. At this point, Saddiqur RAHMAN (53yrs) attempted to grab at officers who were dealing with Saddiqur RAHMAN (27yrs). A colleague of mine took hold of Saddiqur RAHMAN (53yrs) as did I. I believe that both myself and my colleague were shouting "LET GO" but Saddiqur RAHMAN (53yrs) refused. I was gabbing at his right arm but he would not let go of who he was holding onto. We kept pulling at his arm and he finally let go. My colleague arrested Saddiqur RAHMAN (53yrs) and we removed him from the premises. As we did this, he continued to tense his arms and was shouting at us. When we got outside, I attempted to speak with RAHMAN but he would not listen. Staff from the restaurant were filming us on their mobile phones through the windows. After a short while, both arrested persons were taken from the location and booked into custody.

On SATURDAY 30 NOVEMBER 2019, I was at HASTINGS police station I viewed officers' BWV footage of the incident at OCEAN SPICE on 14 NOVEMBER 2019.

PC MENDES' BWV footage shows MOMINUR swearing and shouting upon officers initially entering the premises. MOMINUR is detained by officers but he remains abusive and argumentative. At 20:07hrs, PC MENDES is then seen to run out of the premises into the street where Saddiqur RAHMAN (27yrs) is seen to be shouting and being aggressive towards PC CL088 LAWS. Saddiqur RAHMAN (27yrs) is then seen to tell officers "DON'T TOUCH ME" at the door to the premises despite him blocking officers from re-entering the premises under the Warrant. A short while later, Saddiqur RAHMAN (27yrs) is seen to scuffle with officers inside the premises which resulted in his arrest).

PC DEVLIN's BWV footage shows MOMINUR shouting "YOU'RE LUCKY I WOULD HAVE KNOCKED HIM OUT" and "I WILL FUCK YOU". Also, at 19:55hrs, MOMINUR says "MY FINGER'S BROKEN ALREADY" as if to insinuate he has a pre-existing injury. MOMINUR is very angry and aggressive. However, after a sort while he calms down and the handcuffs are removed. During this point, MOMINUR admits "YOU HAVE A JOB TO DO". The BWV

later shows Saddiqur RAHMAN (27yrs) and Saddiqur RAHMAN (53yrs) being argumentative and shouting at officers. PC UPJOHN's BWV footage shows the incident in the street. Saddiqur RAHMAN (27yrs) is seen shouting at PC CL088 LAWS to "ARREST ME" whilst also shouting. Saddiqur RAHMAN is warned about his behaviour by PC LAWS. At 21:10hrs, Saddiqur RAHMAN (27yrs) is seen being arrested within the premises. He refuses to put his hands behind his back and can be seen tensing his arms. Officers are heard to explain to Saddiqur RAHMAN (27yrs) about how he will be removed from the premises. As this happens, he shouts at officers continuously, calling them "FUCKING IDIOTS" and telling officers to "SHUT UP".

PC FRENCH's BWV footage shows PC FREEMAN and PC ELLIOTT walking MOMINUR to the van and appears to be trying to protect said officers from Saddiqur RAHMAN (27yrs) who was trying to obstruct the transport of MOMINUR. Saddiqur RAHMAN (27yrs) could be heard shouting "IF YOU TOUCH ME AGAIN, I'LL KNOCK YOU OUT". At 20:07hrs, on PC FRENCH's BWV, Saddiqur RAHMAN (27yrs) and Saddiqur RAHMAN (53yrs) can be seen being abusive and in the face of officers.