

**WITNESS STATEMENT**

(Criminal Procedure Rules 2011 R27.2, Criminal Justice Act 1967 S9, Magistrates Court Act 1980 S5B)

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Statement of: **BOB WRIGHT**Age if under 18: **OVER 18** (if over 18 insert 'over 18')Occupation: **LOSS PREVENTION OFFICER**

This statement (consisting of 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:

Date:

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

I am the above named person and I am employed as a loss prevention officer at ABC stores, Church Street, Liverpool, L1 1AB.

At 0930 hours on Wednesday 4th July 2012 I was working in the store in plain clothes / security uniform. I was on the shop floor near to the stationary display at the rear of the store.

At this time my attention was drawn to a male who I now know to be Alan SMITH, date of birth 1/1/60 of 1 Liverpool Road, L3. SMITH was wearing a black hooded top and black tracksuit bottoms with a white stripe down the leg. I have previously had dealings with SMITH in April this year when I detained him after another incident in our store.

Today when I saw SMITH, he was looking around nervously, I was approximately 10 metres away from him at this time, stood at the top of the aisle. I continued to observe SMITH from this distance and watched him approach the stationary display, he selected a number of parker pens from the display and placed them into the right hand pocket of his tracksuit bottoms. At

Signature:		Signature witnessed by:	
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Continuation statement of: **Text.Given1 Text.Given2 Text.Surname**

this time the store was well lit and there was no obstructions to my view.

He then walked towards the front of the store and past the staffed till point and made no attempt to pay for the items that were still in his pocket.

I informed colleagues over the shop link radio and followed SMITH out of the store. I was joined at this time by the store manager Paul JONES. I did not loose sight of SMITH at any point and I detained him approximately 20 metres outside the door to the shop. I informed him that I was a loss prevention officer for ABC Stores and that I had witnessed him taking items from the store without paying for them. I asked him to accompany me back to the store so that the matter could be dealt with. SMITH was compliant and agreed to return to the store.

Once in the Office area SMITH removed from the right hand tracksuit bottom pocket 9 parker pens valued at £9.99 each (total value £89.91). These have since been retained by the store and are still in a re-saleable condition.

The Manager Paul JONES had contacted the Police and they arrived a short time later. In the presence of SMITH I informed the Officers what had occurred and SMITH was arrested a short time later.

The incident was captured on the stores CCTV system and I have handed a copy of this to Constable Bloggs as exhibit reference BW1.

Nobody has the right to take goods from our store without making payment first.

Signature:		Signature witnessed by:	
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Witness contact detailsHome address: **c/o ABC Stores, Church Street**Postcode: **L1 1AB**Home telephone No: **NA**Work telephone No: **0151 707 1234**Mobile/Pager No: **NA**E-mail address: **NA**Preferred means of contact (*specify details*): **Work**Best time of contact (*specify details*): **Daytime weekdays**Gender: **Male**Date and place of birth: **Liverpool 1/7/72**Former name: **White**Ethnicity Code (16+1): **W1**Religion/Belief (*Specify*): **catholic**DATES OF WITNESS **NON-AVAILABILITY**: **June 2013****Witness care - the following questions must be answered and full details of 'Yes' responses included on form MG6**

Is the witness unwilling and unlikely to attend court? No If 'Yes' also give details of what can be done to ensure attendance

If the person responsible for the offence is kept in custody by police, has the witness stated that they wish to be kept informed if bail is granted by the court? No

Does the witness have any special needs if required to attend court and give evidence? No
(e.g. language difficulties, visually/hearing impaired, restricted mobility, learning difficulties etc.)Does the witness require a Special Measures Assessment as a vulnerable or intimidated witness? No
If 'Yes' submit MG2 with fileWill the person giving evidence require standby arrangements for court? No
If 'Yes' submit MG2 with fileStatement taken by: **Completed by self**Station: **NA**Date, time and place statement taken: **4/7/12 1000hours @ ABC Stores****Witness Consent (for witness completion)**

The Victim Personal Statement scheme (victims only) has been explained to me: Yes

I have been given the Victim Personal Statement Leaflet. Yes

I wish to make a Victim Personal Statement today. No

I have been given the leaflet "Giving a Witness Statement to the Police – What happens next?" Yes

I consent to police having access to my medical record(s) & notes in relation to this matter NA

I consent to my medical record in relation to this matter being disclosed to the defence NA

I consent to the statement being disclosed for the purpose of civil proceedings if applicable (e.g. child care proceedings, CICA, ASBO's, injunctions etc.) Yes

The information recorded above will be disclosed to the Witness Service and Victim Support (victims only) so that they can offer help and support. If you do not wish to be contacted, telephone the relevant number as directed in the leaflet that the Officer will give to you.

Signature of witness:**PRINT NAME: Bob WRIGHT****Signature of parent/guardian/appropriate adult:****PRINT NAME:****Address and telephone number (of parent etc.), if different from above:**

Giving a witness statement to the police – what happens next?

Thank you for coming forward. We value your help and we will do everything possible to help you

The criminal justice system cannot work without witnesses. They are the most important element in bringing offenders to justice. Now you have made a statement, you may be asked to give evidence in court.

Is there anything else I can do?

Yes. It is important to tell the police

- if you have left anything out of your statement or if it is incorrect.
- If your address or phone number changes (trials collapse every day because witnesses cannot be contacted in time)
- dates when you may not be able to go to court. Please update this information as soon as it changes. It is needed when the trial date is set.

Will the suspect (the defendant) or the defence lawyer be given my address ?

No, your address is recorded on the back of your witness statement and the defendant or their solicitor only receives a copy of the front. Also, witnesses are not usually asked to give their address out loud in court. The defendant or their solicitor is normally told the names of any witnesses.

What will happen to my statement

If a suspect is charged over this incident, your statement and all the other evidence will be passed to the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS). CPS is responsible for prosecuting people who have been charged with criminal offences in England and Wales. Although they work closely, the police and CPS are separate organisations.

Who will read my statement?

Everyone involved with the case will read your statement (e.g. the police, CPS, defence and the magistrates or judge).

What if someone tries to intimidate me?

It is a criminal offence to intimidate (frighten) a witness or anyone else helping the police in an investigation. If you are harassed or threatened in any way before, during or after the trial, you should tell the police immediately.

Will I be told what is happening in the case?

The police and CPS are improving procedures to keep victims and witnesses up to date with what is happening but it is not always possible to do this in every case. Remember, you can contact the police at any time if you have any questions or concerns. Contact details are in the next column and over the page.

You will be contacted if you are needed to go to court (but it may be some time after you gave your statement, as cases take time to prepare).

Victims of crime are usually told:

- if a suspect is charged
- about bail and what happens at court
- if the case does not proceed for any reason

Witnesses who are not victims of the crime may not be contacted again if:

- the suspect admits the offence and is cautioned or pleads guilty at court
- there is not enough evidence to prosecute the suspect
- no suspect is identified

Will I have to go to court?

You will only have to go to court if the defendant:

- denies the charge and pleads not guilty or
- pleads guilty but denies an important part of the offence which might affect the type of sentence they receive.

If you are asked to go to court, the prosecution and defence lawyers will ask you questions about your evidence. You will be able to read your statement to refresh your memory first.

If you have given a statement and are then asked to go to court to give evidence, you must do so. You will be sent

- A letter telling you when and where to go
- An explanatory leaflet

What will happen if I don't go to court?

If you have any problems or concerns about going to court, you must inform the Witness Care Officer as soon as possible (numbers are on reverse). If you have to go to court but there is reason to believe that you will not go voluntarily, the court may issue a witness summons against you. If you still fail to attend without good reason you may be found 'in contempt of court' and arrested.

Where will the case be heard?

Most cases are heard in the magistrates' court. More serious crimes are heard in the Crown Court before a jury.

Who can help?

Every court has a free and confidential Witness Service and you can contact them before the trial. Their trained volunteers offer:

- information on what happens in court
- emotional support and someone to talk to in confidence
- someone to be with you in court when you give evidence
- a visit to the court before the trial, including where possible, a look around a court room so you know what to expect

Their telephone numbers are listed on the reverse of this sheet.

The Witness Service does not discuss evidence or give legal advice.

Extra help is available to support vulnerable or intimidated witnesses. If the CPS lawyer thinks that a witness qualifies for this help, known as 'Special Measures', he/she will ask the court for permission to use them. The Witness Service, police or CPS will tell you what is available and the police or CPS is able to discuss your needs.

Merseyside Police Witness Information

The officer dealing with your case/ taking this statement is:

Officer:Rank:

Station:

Telephone:

Contact E-Mail:

Case Reference No:

The officer dealing with your case can help but may not always be available. If you have any questions or concerns you can also call the following number:

Witness Care Unit Direct Line Telephone Numbers	Victim Support	Witness Service Locations & Direct Line Telephone Numbers
<p>You may be contacted by our Witness Care Unit. They will be your single point of contact throughout the trial and will give you practical support and the information you need.</p> <p>Wirral Area 0151 777 1731 to 1738</p> <p>Sefton Area 0151 777 1727 to 1732</p> <p>Knowsley & St. Helens Area 0151 777 1718/21 to 1726</p> <p>Liverpool Area 0151 777 1705 to 1720</p> <p>You may also be offered support from the Victim Support's Witness Service, which is confidential and free. This support will include someone to talk to (they cannot however discuss the details of the case), a quiet place in which to wait and a chance to see the court before the day of the trial.</p> <p>If you do not wish to be contacted, telephone the Witness Care Unit number for the Area in which the offence you witnessed occurred.</p>	<p>VICTIM CARE UNIT 2nd Floor Bridgewater Complex Canal Street Bootle L20 8AH</p> <p>Tel: 0151 353 4025 Email: vcu.Merseyside@victimsupport.org.uk</p> <p>MINICOM: 0151 353 4019 MOBILE TEXT: 0776 738 3206</p> <p>As a victim of crime, you may be contacted by Victim Support to offer you practical assistance and support. If you do not wish to be contacted please advise Victim Support, within 24 hrs of receiving this leaflet, by telephoning the Victim Care Unit on the telephone number above, you may leave a message if it is out of office hours, or leave a text message on the mobile text number.</p> <p>AREA OFFICE 2nd Floor Bridgewater Complex Canal Street L20 8AH</p> <p>Tel: 0151 353 4000 Email: general.admin@victimsupport.org.uk</p> <p>National Victim Support Helpline 0845 30 30 900</p>	<p>Wirral Magistrates 0151 285 4174 Chester Street Birkenhead CH41 5HW</p> <p>South Sefton Magistrates 0151 933 9648 Merton Road Bootle, L20 3BJ</p> <p>North Sefton Magistrates 0151 933 9648 Albert Road Southport PR9 0LJ</p> <p>St. Helens Magistrates 01744 735 723 Corporation Street St. Helens WA10 1SZ</p> <p>Knowsley Magistrates 0151 289 5528 Lathom Road Huyton L36 9XY</p> <p>Liverpool Magistrates 0151 243 5540 111 Dale Street Liverpool L2 6JQ</p> <p>Liverpool Crown Court 0151 231 1379 QE2 Law Courts Derby Square Liverpool</p>