

STATEMENT OF WITNESS

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

STATEMENT OF James Boles

Age of witness "over 18"

This statement 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.

I am currently employed by Trafford Council as a licensing enforcement officer.

On 30th July 2024 at 11.30 hrs I attended at "Linguine" a licensed restaurant located at 20 Northenden Road, Sale. M33 3BR.

The reason for my visit was to attach a "Blue Notice" to the premises. The notice was to inform the public that an application had been received by Trafford Council for the review of the premises licence held by Nagmadin ZANA for that premises.

I then attached the notice to the front window of the restaurant before leaving.

On Tuesday 20th August at 16.20 hrs I attended at the restaurant, on this occasion the premises was open, a number of tables had been setup on the pavement and the front door of the premises was open. As I walked into the premises, I was greeted by a male who appeared to be running the premises. I asked him if he was the manager and he informed me that he was the part time supervisor of the restaurant and that his name was Anis QUESLETI.

I informed Mr QUESLETI that I was from the licensing department at Trafford Council and showed him my identification card and informed him that the reason for my visit was to deliver some paperwork to Mr ZANA regarding the review of the premises licence.

We then moved to the back of the restaurant and stood next to the bar, the bar appeared to be fully stocked with bottles of spirits and wine and it was clear to me that the premises would be serving alcohol to its customers. We then spoke about the premises licence and that council records showed Mr ZANA as being the premises licence holder.

Mr OUESLETI stated that Mr ZANA was no longer involved in the business and that there was a new owner. I then asked who the new owner was, and Mr OUESLETI stated that he was unsure but that he believed that the owner's wife would be applying to change the licence into her name.

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I then asked Mr OUESLETI to show me the premises licence as that would state who held the licence. Mr OUESLETI said that the licence was usually attached to the wall beside the bar but that the premises had recently been decorated and the licence had been moved, and he did not know where it was.

As I was speaking to Mr OUESLETI the phone on the bar rang and Mr OUESLETI answered it, from the conversation he had it was clear to me that he was speaking to a customer who was making a booking for the following evening.

I informed Mr OUESLETI that alcohol should not be sold if there was not a premises licence in place and Mr OUESLETI stated that he believed the new owner had taken care of that and again stated that the owner would be transferring it into his wife's name.

I then asked Mr OUESLETI where the "Blue Notice" was that had previously attached to the front window, he said he did not know. I then reattached a Blue Notice to the front window and left the premises.

Signed: June June (witness) Date:21 st August 2024.
(<i>To be completed if applicable</i> :
Signed:)