



(CJ Act 1967 S.9; MCA1980 SS5A(3)(A) and 5B; MC Rules 1981, r.70)
RESTRICTED- For Council and prosecution only

STATEMENT OF Russell BONIFACE DATED: 23rd November 2023

RESTRICTED- For Council and prosecution only
Witness Statement

Age : Over 18

Occupation of witness:

This statement (consisting of 2 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 in it anything, which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.

Signature

Date:

.....	being	unable	to	read	the	statement,
I.....of.....					read it to
him/her before he/she signed it.						
Dated thisday of.....Signed.....						

I am Russell BONIFACE, a Licensing Enforcement Officer employed by Southampton City Council. As a part of my duties, I conduct investigations into complaints and compliance failures relating to the Taxi and Private Hire trades and enforce the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 as appropriate when dealing with these matters.

I now produce exhibit RB1 which is an email advising that a Private Hire Vehicle 0776, now known to be DK17 VND, was in breach of its licence conditions and displaying multiple operator logos. I also now produce exhibit RB2 which is a photo of the above vehicle that was attached to RB2.

After checking our records, I noted that the vehicle licence had expired on 31st August 2023 and presumed the vehicle was simply no longer in use.

I know produce exhibit RB3. This is an email exchange between myself and Arjan SAHOTA who is the director of 'Cab My Ride' and 'Aryvo'. I began this email on 6th November 2023 at 1153 providing the photo of the above vehicle licence had expired and requesting evidence that door stickers were removed as a matter of priority. At 1248 that same day, Arjan SAHOTA responded requesting a suitable time for the vehicle to be presented to us and obtain compliant door stickers. At 1255 I reiterated that the licence had expired and then
Signature..... Date.....



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also enquired if the vehicle was being operated under any of Arjan SAHOTA's associated operator platforms.

On 8th November 2023 I still had not received a further response from Arjan SAHOTA so at 0901 I chased progress on my request for evidence of the sticker removal and a response to my question. At 0905 I received a response from Arjan SAHOTA which read 'Hi Russell, Yes the car is removed, and will send pics to you shortly.'

I now produce exhibit RB4 which is a further email exchange between myself and Arjan SAHOTA. At 1222 on 9th November 2023 Arjan SAHOTA copied me into an email to Harjit SAHOTA with a request for photos of 'the unstickered car' be provided 'asap'. On 20th November 2023 at 0920 I had not received anything further so sent a message to Arjan SAHOTA advising I still needed a response. On 21st November 2023 at 0915 I was copied in on another email to Harjit SAHOTA which again which read '[@Harjit Sahota](#) Can this be sorted today, before we go away! Ask the office team to send the photos ASAP.'

On 22nd November 2023, I understand that the driver 'Alfred' attended the Licensing Office and spoke to Russell HAWKINS stating that Cab My Ride and provided the above vehicle to Alfred for use as a Private Hire Vehicle. This was my last interaction with this matter.

Signature..... Date.....

RB1

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Hawkins, Russell](#)
Subject: Advertising 2 companies
Date: 03 November 2023 18:14:09
Attachments: [20231103_145435.jpg](#)

This Message Is From an Untrusted Sender
You have not previously corresponded with this sender.

[Report Suspicious](#)

Good evening Russell

I hope you are well.

Russell after all the hard work Ali had done to get the door stickers changed we get idiots like the driver in the attached flouting clear guidelines on multiple stickers/advertising two companies.

I hope you take the appropriate action to nip this in the bud.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

RB2



From: Arjan Sahota <arjan@cabmyride.com>
Sent: 08 November 2023 09:05
To: Boniface, Russell
Subject: Re: FW: Advertising 2 companies

This Message Is From an External Sender

This message came from outside your organisation.

Report Suspicious

Hi Russell,

Yes the car is removed, and will send pics to you shortly.

On Wed, Nov 8, 2023 at 9:01 AM Boniface, Russell <Russell.Boniface@southampton.gov.uk> wrote:

Arjan

I need evidence the stickers have been removed and a response to my question please.

Kind regards

Russell Boniface

Licensing Enforcement Officer

Southampton and Eastleigh Licensing Partnership

Southampton City Council

'phone: 023 8083 4322

fax: 023 8083 4061

e-mail: russell.boniface@southampton.gov.uk

web: www.southampton.gov.uk/licensing and www.eastleigh.gov.uk/licensing

post: Licensing - Southampton City Council, Civic Centre, Southampton SO14 7LA

From: Boniface, Russell

Sent: Monday, November 6, 2023 12:55 PM

To: Arjan Sahota <arjan@cabmyride.com>
Subject: RE: FW: Advertising 2 companies

Arjan

For clarity, **this vehicle is no longer licensed by us** so the stickers (and plate if applicable) need removing.

Is this vehicle being operated under any of your platforms?

Kind regards

Russell Boniface

Licensing Enforcement Officer

Southampton and Eastleigh Licensing Partnership

Southampton City Council

'phone: 023 8083 4322

fax: 023 8083 4061

e-mail: russell.boniface@southampton.gov.uk

web: www.southampton.gov.uk/licensing and www.eastleigh.gov.uk/licensing

post: Licensing - Southampton City Council, Civic Centre, Southampton SO14 7LA

From: Arjan Sahota <arjan@cabmyride.com>
Sent: Monday, November 6, 2023 12:48 PM
To: Boniface, Russell <Russell.Boniface@southampton.gov.uk>
Subject: Re: FW: Advertising 2 companies

Hi Russell,

We'll send the driver down to change the Cab My Ride sticker to the standard issue you provide.
What time suits you?

On Mon, Nov 6, 2023 at 11:53 AM Boniface, Russell <Russell.Boniface@southampton.gov.uk> wrote:

Hi Arjan

I have been sent the attached photo. This vehicle licence expired on 31/08/2023 so the door stickers need removing asap. Please provide me with proof this as a matter of priority.

Kind regards

Russell Boniface

Licensing Enforcement Officer

Southampton and Eastleigh Licensing Partnership

Southampton City Council

'phone: 023 8083 4322

fax: 023 8083 4061

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From: Arjan Sahota <arjan@cabmyride.com>
Sent: 21 November 2023 09:15
To: Boniface, Russell
Cc: Harjit Sahota
Subject: Re: Alfreds Old Car

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[@Harjit Sahota](#) Can this be sorted today, before we go away!
Ask the office team to send the photos ASAP.

On Mon, Nov 20, 2023 at 9:20 AM Boniface, Russell <Russell.Boniface@southampton.gov.uk> wrote:

Good morning

I still have not received anything on this.

Regards

Russell Boniface

Licensing Enforcement Officer

Southampton and Eastleigh Licensing Partnership

Southampton City Council

'phone: 023 8083 4322

e-mail: russell.boniface@southampton.gov.uk

web: www.southampton.gov.uk/licensing and www.eastleigh.gov.uk/licensing

post: Licensing - Southampton City Council, Civic Centre, Southampton SO14 7LA

From: Arjan Sahota <arjan@cabmyride.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 9, 2023 12:22 PM
To: Boniface, Russell <Russell.Boniface@southampton.gov.uk>; Harjit Sahota <harjit@cabmyride.com>
Subject: Alfreds Old Car

Harjit Can you send Photos of the unstickered car from Alfred ASAP.

It's the black ford that we debadged and are selling.

--

Arjan Sahota

Director

Aryvo & Cab My Ride Ltd



02380 55 55 55



arjan@aryvo.com



www.aryvo.com



Aryvo, Arena Business Centre, Threefield Lane, SO143LP



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