

**RESTRICTED (when complete)****CLEVELAND POLICE****WITNESS STATEMENT**

(CJ Act 1967, s9 MC Act 1980, ss5A(3)(a) and 5B; MC Rules 1981, r70)

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Statement of **James Johnson**Age if under 18 **Over 18** (If over 18 insert "Over 18") Occupation **Pc190**

This statement (consisting of **3** 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 anything in it, which I know to be false, or do not believe to be true.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date: **6<sup>th</sup> September 2019**Tick if witness evidence is visually recorded  (supply witness details on rear)

I am a Police Constable in the Cleveland Police presently posted to the Licensing unit at Middlesbrough Police office.

I have been on this department for the past 11 years and my duties include the monitoring of licensed premises.

It is my responsibility to ensure that all licensed premises including pubs, clubs, restaurants, takeaways and off licences are ran safely and efficiently as well as monitoring any crime and disorder that occurs at these premises.

If a premise is having problems I would advise on a course of action and would work with the licensee/DPS to help prevent and reduce any issues raised.

I am also involved with pubwatch which is a meeting held every 3 months by licensees and the Police role is to attend as invited guests and offer advice and assistance if requested.

The George public house situated on Stockton High Street, was always a member of the Stockton Pubwatch group until 2015 when the current owner Craig Harker has removed the premises from the group.

This occurred as a result of Mr Harker's friendship with a person who had been subject of a

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Signature Witnessed by \_\_\_\_\_

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Pubwatch ban and Cleveland Police had received information that this male was attending the George in contravention of his ban.

At 10.55am on the 14<sup>th</sup> January 2015 I attended the George and spoke to Mr Harker about this information and other matters.

I advised Mr Harker that he would either have to ask his friend to stay out of his premises as per his Pubwatch ban or that if he wanted him to come in then he would have to remove his premises from the Pubwatch group.

Mr Harker said he would remove his premises from Pubwatch so I advised him to confirm this with the then Pubwatch chairman.

On the 16<sup>th</sup> January 2015 I spoke to the Pubwatch chairman who confirmed to me that Mr Harker had indeed removed his premises from the Pubwatch group.

At 1.55pm on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> August 2019 I attended the George with Sgt Higgins and an officer from Stockton council licensing unit where we spoke to Mr Harker.

One of the conditions on the George licence states **'The licence holder and/or the designated premises supervisor or a person nominated by them shall actively participate and be a member of a Pubwatch scheme for an area within which the premises is located'** .

It pointed out to Mr Harker that he had removed his premises from the Pubwatch group but he claimed he would be willing to attend meetings but he had not been notified of the dates.

He did claim that attending the meetings is **'A waste of time'**

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Signature Witnessed by \_\_\_\_\_

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On Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2019 I attended the Stockton Pubwatch meeting which was held at Traders public house where Mr Harker did attend, although he arrived just as the meeting was coming to a close.

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Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Signature Witnessed by \_\_\_\_\_