

WITNESS STATEMENT

(Criminal Procedure Rules, r 16. 2; Criminal Justice Act 1967, s. 9)

Statement of: Matthew Smith

URN

Age (if under 18): N/A

Occupation: Police Officer

This statement refers to an Incident where a large fight broke out at the THE SUGAR HUT on PITT STREET, BARNSELEY, where around twenty to thirty people were involved.

On SATURDAY 15th OCTOBER 2022 I attended the THE SUGAR HUT on PITT STREET as we were flagged down by a member of the public. Upon arrival I could see that there were no door staff present, if so there were not wearing any visible uniforms or badges to identify themselves. When I entered there were around twenty to thirty males and females fighting, again no security staff visible and no person intervening or helping. As I cleared people out of the bar one male stated he was the manager but was again, not in uniform or doing anything to stop the fighting. It was alleged the fighting had broken out in the females toilets then spilt out into the main bar area. As I had escorted people out of the bar there was nothing in place to stop these people returning and multiple people came back in causing trouble with the remaining people in the bar. From what I could see staff at the venue itself did not attempted to stop or even assist with the incident. When outside of the venue again at least twenty people were present still arguing and being aggressive to one another this ended up in one person being arrested but no staff or door staff were present to assist throughout the whole incident. It was alleged that the female who had been arrested had been sacked at the venue earlier on that week. As far as I could see the venue had nothing in place to stop any issues or to stop any issues from escalating which led to a free for all inside and outside the venue. No assistance at all was offered to officers who were at scene from the venue management or staff.

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.

Signature of Witness:



Date: 27-11-2022