

Witness Statement

(Criminal Procedure Rules 2005, r27.1 (1);
Criminal Justice Act 1967, s.9, Magistrates' Courts Act 1980, s5A (3) (a) and s.5B)

Statement of NATASHA KILLEN

Age; if under 18 (over 18) (if over 18 insert "over 18"). Occupation Unemployed

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.

Dated the 25th day of July 2014

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

Signature *Natasha Killen*

I am Natasha Killen and this is my account of witnessing antisocial behaviour from customers frequenting a licensed premise known as bar 137 situated at the junction of Church Street and South King Street, Blackpool. I have also witnessed and been a victim of noise nuisance in the form of excessively loud music being played inside bar 137. I live in a first floor flat which is situated on South King Street on the same side and approximately ten metres away from bar 137. Directly opposite my flat is a pub called the blue room and directly next door is a pub called the Frenchman's cove. I would describe the area as a busy town centre location. I live in the flat with a male partner and my two young sons's aged one and two years of age. I moved into the flat in March 2014 the living room faces directly onto South King Street with the bedrooms to the rear of the property. Ever since moving bar 137 has been problematic, we have suffered from disturbed sleep which has been caused by loud music coming from bar 137 I can physically feel the vibration of the bass through the floor of the flat. I would have thought that any problems would be from the other two licensed premises but these do not cause any problems I hear absolutely no noise from the Frenchman's cove. But do occasionally hear some music from the live bands at the blue room but any noise from the blue room is finished around 1am to 1.30am and is never excessively loud or problematic. However any music from bar 137 can be heard and felt beyond this time, and can drown out any music heard from the blue room.

I know the man who ran bar 137 I know him as Oggie a man aged about mid forties to fifty

Signature *Natasha Killen*

Signature witnessed by

years of age, who used to run the Bier Keller and the Jaggy Thistle pubs. Soon after moving in and experiencing the loud music into the early hours of the morning I went to bar 137 and spoke to Oggie in relation to the noise nuisance and initially the volume was turned down for a short time but not long after the volume of the music was again excessively loud. I have also witnessed violence with customers from bar 137 fighting in the street. On one occasion it was late afternoon between 3.30pm and 3.45pm, I was standing in the large front bay window of the flat which looks down onto South King Street and gives a clear view to the front of bar 137 I was standing with my two year old son we were waiting for my father to arrive. Two males suddenly burst out of the side door of bar 137 and appeared to continue a fight that may have started inside the premises. Both males were drunk and throwing punches at one another one of the males received a punch to his face and was covered with blood, this happened so fast I was unable to avoid my young son seeing this. The fight suddenly stopped as quickly as it had started with both males going their separate ways an ambulance arrived and the male covered in blood was located close by and attended to. On a second occasion my partner and myself were sitting in the living room watching television, it was approximately 3.10am when we heard a commotion outside with shouting and screaming. On looking out of the window I saw two males fighting, with other people stood about. Both myself and my partner went down to the front door to see what was happening I saw the two males were still fighting and throwing punches at one another then it was broke up. One of the males went into bar 137, this same male then reappeared a moment later from inside bar 137 and the fight started again. There was only one doorman on duty he was standing at the front door on Church Street as the fight moved into Church Street this doorman walked across the road to where the males were fighting and grabbed hold of one of the males and punched him to the head knocking the male to the floor, the doorman then stood over this male and continued punching him whilst he was lying on the floor to the face. The doorman then quickly returned to bar 137 and went straight

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inside leaving the door unmanned, the doorman did not come out again as he was aware that the Police had been called. The Police arrived, spoke to a few people and sent everyone on their way with no action was taken against the doorman. I have also witnessed drug taking by customers coming from bar 137. While I was standing at the front door of my flat smoking, I do not smoke in the flat as I don't like smoking near my young children. I saw two males come out of the side door of bar 137 one of these males I know as a family friend they both walked towards me and I spoke to this male I know. His friend was standing almost next to us when I saw him put his hand in his pocket and pulled out a small transparent plastic bag containing what I would describes as white powder, this male then opened the bag and scooped some of the white powder up with what appeared to be a flat metal door key. He then lifted the key to his nose and sniffed the white powder up his nostrils. I quickly finished my conversation with the male I know. They then both turned around and walked back and into the side door of bar 137. This type of anti social behaviour is common with customers from this premises I have even witnessed females urinating in the street having just walked out of bar 137 where there are toilet facilities. Recently around the beginning of July 2014 I noticed that bar 137 was being redecorated, this made sense as all of the drunks that used to go into bar 137 seemed to be going into the Frenchman's cove in the mornings. I saw Oggie outside bar 137 and in conversation he mentioned that he had signed the premises over to someone else and he had nothing more to do with the place. However on Wednesday 23rdth July 2014 the music from bar 137 had been excessively loud from around 11pm this continued into the early hours of Thursday 24th July 2014 the weather has been extremely hot and I had to keep the windows open. At approximately 3.30 am the music was so loud it woke my children and my partner who needed to be up early for work. I went the short distance to bar 137 and on entering the premises from the main door on Church Street I saw two people already in the bar drinking alcohol two more people walked in ahead of me and was served alcohol. As I walked into bar

Signature Natasha Killen Signature witnessed by

137 the music immediately stopped. I approached a male behind the bar who I would describe as being approximately 30 years of age. I told him that the music was excessively loud and it had woken my young children up this male replied "You mean to say the music was louder than when Oggie had the place" I told him despite the music being loud when Oggie was there it was not loud enough to keep my kids awake and I had to keep my windows open because of the heat. A drunken customer then butted into the conversation saying "why live above a pub with two children" I told the customer to mind his own business the male behind the bar then said "well the music is off now" I then left the premises and returned to my flat. It was approximately 3.40am within five minutes of my return the music started again and continued again excessively loud until 4.30am when the music suddenly stopped. I made contact with the Council and later made a statement in relation to the noise and antisocial nuisance taking place at and around bar 137. In my opinion no one has the authority to unlawfully allow this kind of antisocial behaviour from a licensed premises and I wish to complain about this matter. I am unable to attend any committee hearing in respect of this licensed premise due to being away at a family wedding in August.

Natasha Killen

Signature *Natasha Killen* Signature witnessed by