

WITNESS STATEMENT

Criminal Procedure Rules, r 27.2; Criminal Justice Act 1967, s. 9; Magistrates' Courts Act 1980, s.5B

Crime No. []

URN []

Statement of Alexander Paul Roobottom

Age if under 18 Over 18 (if over 18 insert "over 18")

Occupation Police Constable

This statement (consisting of 2 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.

Signature: Alexander Paul Roobottom (witness)

Date 17/05/2015

This statement relates to multiple arrests that were made for offences concerning immigration on 24 January 2014.

I am Pc 20932 Roobottom and I am currently based at Digbeth Police Station, Birmingham.

Information had been received by West Midlands Police to suggest that there were 'illegal immigrants' working within the Birmingham outdoor markets on Edgbaston Street. I therefore set about creating a task-force consisting of both Police Officers and Market Police to explore the information and to conduct immigration checks on two market stalls that had been highlighted within the information.

At 1130 at around on 24/1/14, I attended the Market Police officers on Moat Lane. I then briefed the Market Police, in company with approximately eight Police Officers, that information had been received to suggest that illegal immigrants were being employed on two market stalls. During the briefing, market Police officers notified me that they were aware of two stalls at which suspected illegal immigrants were working. It was therefore agreed with market Police officers for them to escort Police Officers to the relevant stalls where the illegal immigrants were suspected to be working in order for immigration checks to be conducted.

At around 1200 hours on 24 January 2014, I entered onto the Open Markets and was directed by Market Police staff onto a stall that faced towards Moat Lane. The stall that I was directed to was in the immediate vicinity of the the B18 & B20 stalls. I have since been informed that the stall attended my myself where the following events took place was in fact Stall B22 and I have been able to verify this by identifying it on a plan shown to me of the Open Market area.

The stall had many differing varieties of fruit and vegetables on it. Behind the stall counter (the part of the stall at which I would expect the market trader to sell to customers from) were two males of an Afghan appearance. I then conducted Police National Computer and UKBA checks on the two males that were stood behind of the stall. UKBA checks revealed that one of the two males working behind the stall was working in the United Kingdom illegally. I therefore arrested this male for an offence under s.71 Immigration Act. There was another male stood in front of the stall (the public side of the stall) whom was also found to be in the United Kingdom illegally. I now know the two males whom I arrested to be [redacted] and [redacted]. Because of the time that has elapsed since making the arrests of [redacted] and [redacted] I cannot say with any certainly which male was working behind the stall and which male was stood on the public access side of the stall. I do believe that the male whom I arrested from behind the stall was trading to members of public owing to his position behind the stall. There were large volumes of public in and around

Signature

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the stall whom appeared to be shopping on the markets.

Market Police had also directed a second group of Police Officers to a market stall which was located towards the indoor market where it was suspected that illegal immigrants were working. I was aware that further arrests were made from this stall for offences under the immigration act.

In total, seven arrests were made for offences under the immigration act from the open markets. Their names were provided at the time of arrest as below (information on status was supplied by UKBA in April 2014);

[REDACTED] - detained and due to be removed from the UK on 18/02/2014. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] - detained, no definite date for removal (removal may be authorised for 18/02/2014). [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] - detained for possible removal to Italy as he has previously made a claim for asylum there. No date for removal yet. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] - detained and has made a claim for asylum. This may be fast tracked so an outcome can be decided quickly. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] - detained for possible removal to France as he has previously made a claim for asylum there. No date for removal yet. [REDACTED]

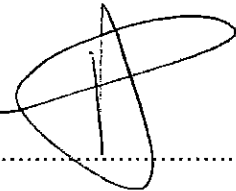
[REDACTED] - detained for possible removal to Italy as he has previously made a claim for asylum there. No date for removal yet. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] - released as he made a claim for asylum. [REDACTED]

All seven persons whom were arrested to transported to Birmingham Central Police Station where their detention was authorised.

On or about 7 April 2014 I received confirmation from UKBA that none of the seven persons arrested had permission to work in the United Kingdom.

Alexander Paul Roobottom

Signature 

Signature witnessed by

07/2013