

STATEMENT OF WITNESS

*(Criminal Procedure Rules 2020, Rule 16.2,
Criminal Justice Act 1967, s. 9)*

STATEMENT OF:

Age of witness (if over 18, enter "over 18"):

Occupation of Witness: Trading Standards Officer

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.

Dated the 17th day of January 2023

Signed

I am employed by West Sussex County Council as a Trading Standards Officer. On the 14th December 2022, I took part in an Underage Sales operation with Senior Trading Standards Officer, _____, and trainee Trading Standards Officer _____

i At about 3pm I entered a shop called Choices of Horsham at 1 Burtons Court, Park Way, Horsham, RH12 1PY. Inside the shop I saw the volunteer enter the shop shortly after me. I positioned myself close to the counter so that I could see and hear any sale of alcohol. I saw the volunteer take a bottle to the counter. I saw the seller scan the alcohol and heard the seller tell the volunteer the price. I then saw the seller take money from the volunteer and hand the alcohol back to the volunteer.

I heard the seller ask the volunteer if she had identification. I heard the volunteer say 'no' and then I heard the seller tell the volunteer to bring it next time. I saw the volunteer leave the shop with the alcohol and I left shortly after the volunteer. I saw the volunteer hand the alcohol to _____ and return to the car. Inside the car handed the alcohol inside an evidence bag to me. I sealed the evidence bag with the reference number MC00110122. I saw that the alcohol was WKD Pink Gin. I produce the alcohol as evidence with exhibit number DD1/CH. At about 3.20pm I

returned to the shop with . I saw and heard ' Introduce us and advise the seller of the underage sale. I heard ask the seller a number of questions to determine his identity role in the shop. I heard caution the seller at this time. I heard i ask the seller what age he thought the seller was and heard the seller reply that he thought she was 25. I asked the seller, why, if he thought the volunteer was 25, did he ask her for ID and ask her to bring it next time. The seller said to me that he realised that he should have checked the ID of the purchaser but had already made the transaction. At about 3.40pm and myself left the shop.