

**WITNESS STATEMENT** Appendix 2

(CJ Act 1967, s.9; MC Act 1980, ss.5A(3) (a) and 5B, MC Rules 1981, r.70)

--	--	--	--

Statement of: Craig Robert Gurr

Age if under 18: O/18 (if over 18 insert 'over 18') Occupation Police Officer

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 27 July 2016

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

I am a sergeant with Bedfordshire Police currently stationed at Dunstable Police Station.

I am an expert in the field of drugs and I have been requested to provide a statement. I confirm that I have read guidance contained in a booklet known as *Disclosure: Expert's Evidence and Unused Material* which details my role and documents my responsibilities in relation to revelation as an expert witness. I have followed the guidance and recognise the continuing nature of my responsibilities of revelation. In accordance with my duties of revelation, as documentation in the guidance booklet, I

- a. Confirm that I have complied with my duties to record, retain and reveal material in accordance with Criminal Procedure and Investigation Act 1996, as amended;
- b. Have compiled an index of all material. I will ensure that the index is updated in the event that I am provided or generate additional material;
- c. That in the event my opinion changes on any material issue, I will inform the investigating officer as soon as reasonably practicable and give reasons.

I have been a police officer for 20 years and throughout most of my career I have had extensive experience in dealing with drugs related cases.

**2000-2002** I was part of a pro active team dealing with drugs warrants and operations. My role within this team was to take part in these operations and to interview suspects and prepare prosecution files.

**2003-2005** I was a detective constable on a pro-active tasking team, with responsibility for drugs

investigations.

**2005-2011** I was the Drugs Field Intelligence Officer for Luton and South Bedfordshire. In this role I had responsibility for gathering, reviewing, disseminating and actioning drug intelligence.

I conducted intelligence interviews with drug users and dealers. I planned and executed a number of drugs warrants. This has led to me having a good knowledge of local current street prices and slang terms for various controlled drugs. During this period I was a member of the Luton Drugs and Alcohol Partnership, which consisted of representatives from the police, probation service, NHS and drug treatment organisations. The purpose of this group was to set local drugs enforcement and treatment policy.

**2011-2013** I was the dedicated intelligence officer for a covert drug test purchase operation

I have been trained by the Forensic Science Service in field drug testing using BDH and Cozart drug testing kits. I have taken part in numerous drugs test purchase operations. I have attended the National Drugs Expert Witness Course at Wakefield West Yorkshire.

**2014** Attended a seminar on Psychoactive Substances and Legal Highs at Hertfordshire Police HQ.

I attend quarterly Forcewide Drugs Experts Meetings within force where drugs trends and pricing are discussed.

I am also a member and on the mailing list for the National Police Drugs Advisory Group and receive regular updates as to national and international drug trends and intelligence.

I have been asked to provide a statement for use in the licence review hearing of The Railway Steamer Public House Clifton Road Shefford.

I was present when a search warrant was executed at the location on 14<sup>th</sup> July 2016 and I have seen the drugs exhibits in this case which is believed to be cocaine.

**Cocaine:** Cocaine hydrochloride is a Class A drug which commonly comes as a white powder. It is a product of the leaves of a coca plant which undergoes various chemical processes to produce the drug. Cocaine is most commonly snorted, but can be injected, rubbed onto gums, or smoked. The effect that cocaine has on the user is as a stimulant leading to increased confidence, loss of inhibitions and euphoria. Cocaine increases the heart rate and raises blood pressure and carries an increased risk of heart failure and stroke. Cocaine is often diluted with a variety of substances by dealers in order to maximise profits, and may be diluted several times as it descends through the supply chain. Varying

factors in relation to supply & demand such as relationships with buyers, current market conditions & regional variations all impact on the general valuations of drugs. Also it is common for suppliers of controlled drugs to be users themselves, often supplying to finance their own habit & lifestyle.

The commonly encountered street prices for Cocaine are as follows.

£40- £60 1gram (1000mgs)

£20- £30- ½ gram (500mgs)

£600- £1200 per oz (28grams).

The unofficial nature of the drugs trade means that deal sizes are often imprecise & may be slightly over or under the expected size.

I have been asked to express an opinion based on the balance of probabilities that the white powder exhibits are cocaine.

Based on my experience in dealing with cocaine over a number of years I can state that the substance seized has the appearance and consistency of cocaine powder. The way the substance was packaged in small self seal bags is also a common method of packaging cocaine in individual deals.

Based on my observations on the balance of probabilities my opinion is that the white powder seized is Cocaine powder.

Signature:

Signature witnessed by:

**RESTRICTED – FOR POLICE AND PROSECUTION ONLY**  
(when complete)

**Witness contact details**

Home address: c/o Luton Police Station

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Home telephone No: \_\_\_\_\_ Work telephone No: [REDACTED]

Mobile/Pager No: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred means of contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Male  / Female  (tick as appropriate) Date and place of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Former name: \_\_\_\_\_ Height: \_\_\_\_\_ Ethnicity Code: 1

Date of witness non-availability: \_\_\_\_\_

**Witness care**

a) Is the witness willing and likely to attend court? Yes  No  If 'No', include reason(s) on Form MG6. What can be done to ensure attendance? \_\_\_\_\_

b) Does the witness require 'special measures' as a vulnerable or intimidated witness? Yes  No   
If 'Yes' submit MG2 with file.

c) Does the witness have any specific care needs? Yes  No . If 'Yes' what are they? (Healthcare, childcare, transport, disability, language, difficulties, visually impaired, restricted mobility or other concerns?)

**Witness Consent (for witness completion)**

	Yes	No	N/A
a) The criminal justice process and Victim Personal Statement Scheme (victims only) has been explained to me	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) I have been given the leaflet 'Giving a witness statement to the police – what happens next?'	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) I consent to the police having access to my medical record(s) in relation to this matter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) I consent to my medical record in relation to this matter being disclosed to the defence	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) I consent to the statement being disclosed for the purposes of civil proceedings e.g. child care proceedings (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) The information recorded above will be disclosed to the Witness Service so that they can offer help and support, unless you ask them not to. Tick this box to decline their services <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			

Signature of witness: \_\_\_\_\_

Statement taken by (print name): \_\_\_\_\_ Station: \_\_\_\_\_

Time and place statement taken: \_\_\_\_\_