

WITNESS STATEMENT

CJ Act 1967, s.9; MC Act 1980, ss.5A(3) (a) and 5B; Criminal Procedure Rules 2005, Rule 27.1

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Statement of: **Lindsay Anne Mary Fish**Age if under 18: **Over 18** (if over 18 insert 'over 18') Occupation: **Immigration Officer**

This statement (consisting of 2 pages 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:

Date: **10/08/2021**Tick if witness evidence is visually recorded (supply witness details on rear)

I am an Immigration Officer based at the South East Immigration Compliance and Enforcement (ICE) Team, FRONTIER HOUSE, 7 SHORNCLIFFE ROAD, FOLKESTONE, KENT, CT20 2SH. On Thursday the 5th August 2021 I was on duty in Immigration Enforcement marked protective wear, at approximately 17:00 hours I attended a briefing given by Officer HALLS, also present in the briefing were Officers SIMPSON, HUGHES, SANDHAM, KINGSBURY, HICKS and TUTTON. We were advised of our intended visit TOTAL GARAGE, PALMARSH SERVICE STATION, DYMCHURCH ROAD, HYTHE, KENT, CT21 4ND based upon an allegation that there is an Indian male working illegally at the premises and that the owner is complicit in this.

At approx. 18:01 hours we arrived at the premises, it was open to the public but no staff were onsite, I searched the customer area and staff areas and found no one on site, there was evidence that someone was working there as their personal belongings had been left. At this point I was made aware that Officers had witnessed a male of South Asian appearance leaving the property with milk in his hand as the team were walking across the forecourt, I did not see this male from my positioning within the team deployment. The male had been seen to run into the residential area once away from the petrol station. I remained on site with Officer HUGHES whilst Officers HALLS, SIMPSON, KINGSBURY, HICKS, SANDHAM and TUTTON undertook a controlled foot pursuit of the suspected offender. I spoke to a customer who was waiting to pay for petrol, she advised me that the male who was witnessed to have walked offsite with milk was a worker of the petrol station. She confirmed that she recognised him as she regularly used the station for fuel. She further stated

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that there were usually two males working on site, one of whom she had seen walk off, she described them to be approximately in their 40's and of possible Indian nationality but was not sure of their names. I again searched the premises to check there were no hidden spaces as it was possible that a further male was on site but did not find any persons hiding. I looked at the counter area for paperwork that would indicate who the manager was so that we could contact them and advise of the current situation. Team members started to return to the petrol station at this point as they had been unable to locate the suspect who had fled the scene. Before we had found contact details for a manager or owner a female arrived on site and claimed she had been sent by the owner to lock up the station, she did not appear comfortable with the request and seemed flustered. I referred the female to Officers HALLS and SIMSPON. A short while later a male and female arrived on site also claiming they had been sent to lock up the petrol station, the female who had arrived earlier said that she was no longer needed and left. I remained outside of the premises whilst Officers HALLS and SIMPSON liaised with the male designated to secure the locking up of the petrol station. The premises was secured at approximately 18:45 hours.

Signature

Signature witnessed by

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