

<b>WITNESS STATEMENT</b>			
(Criminal Procedure Rules R16.2, Criminal Justice Act 1967, S9.)			
		URN	
Statement of	<b>Liam Anthony RICE</b>		
Age if under 18	<b>Over 18</b> (if over 18 insert 'over 18')	Occupation	<b>General Manager</b>
Which language would you prefer to give your evidence in		<b>ENGLISH</b>	
Which language would you prefer to give your oath in		<b>ENGLISH</b>	
This statement (consisting of 6 page(s)) 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	<div style="border: 1px dashed black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> <b>Signature</b> </div>	Date	08/08/2024
Signature of parent / guardian / appropriate adult	<div style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; width: 100%;"></div>	Relationship of parent / guardian / appropriate adult	
<p>Tick if witness evidence is visually recorded <input type="checkbox"/> <i>(supply witness details on MG11 Back)</i></p> <p>I am Liam Anthony RICE. Currently I live at the address I have supplied to the Police.</p> <p>I am employed as the General Manager of One Call Taxis. I have held this position for a period of five years. Our taxi office is located at 105 Bridge Road, Litherland Merseyside, however the Head Office is located at 3 St Lukes Road, Southport.</p> <p>As a taxi company we have fleet of a thousand taxis. We cover the whole of the Merseyside area and we also have a taxi office in Skelmersdale. One Call Taxis was founded in 2015 when numerous local taxi companies merged. The phone number used by customers to book a One Call taxi is 01704 547000.</p>			

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Statement of

**Liam Anthony RICE**

When a customer calls to book one of our taxis, the call is directed to an automated booking system. The customer provides their name and the address from where they wish to be collected. They are also asked to provide a destination, but sometimes the destination is not recorded. When the destination is not recorded the driver can update their vehicle handset when they collect the customer. Alternatively, when the driver drops the customer off at their destination, they can swipe their handset and the GPS will automatically record the location where the customer has been dropped off.

All calls made to One Call taxis are recorded and they stay on our system until they are manually deleted. We do not manually delete these recordings as we have no cause to do so. The recordings may be archived at some point, but I am aware that they can be retrieved should the need arise.

All journeys made by our taxis are tracked by a system we use called Cab 9, which I believe is a new system on the market. Cab 9 is installed in all of our taxis and records the route that the taxi takes, any stops or waiting time, the speed of the taxi, the cost of the fare and the time at which the customer was collected and dropped off at their destination.

The Cab 9 system makes a recording of every journey undertaken by all of our taxis. The recordings are retained on the system for a period of four to six weeks and they are automatically removed.

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Statement of

**Liam Anthony RICE**

On the 22nd of July 2024 at 12:20:36hrs we received a call, which as described above was directed to our automated booking system. The phone number that made this call was logged as 07428362306. This was what we would describe as a failed call meaning that no booking was made and that no details of the customer were recorded.

I have provided the Police with a copy of this recording, which I can now produce as evidence marked exhibit LAR/1. I can also produce a screenshot of this recording as evidence marked exhibit LAR/2.

On the 22nd of July 2024 at 12:21:01hrs we received further a call, from the mobile phone number logged as 07428362306. The customer is asked to confirm his name and they say “Simon” in response. They are then asked where they wish to be collected and reply “Pick up location is 10 Old School Close, Banks and the destination is Range High School Formby”.

We refer to a taxi booking as a ride, and this ride was allocated to a driver called Steven EVASON. At the time Steven EVASON was driving a taxi which had the individual call sign of D2232. The taxi is a Kia Nero which is black in colour with a registration number: DPA

I have provided the Police with a copy of this recording, which I can now produce as evidence marked exhibit LAR/3. I can also produce a screenshot of this recording as evidence marked exhibit LAR/4.

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Statement of

Liam Anthony RICE

On the 29th of July at 11:13:42hrs we received a further call, from the mobile phone number logged as 07428362306. The automated says "Hi Simon", which is the name the system has recorded for the mobile number due to the previous call. The caller presses number one to confirm that the location they wish to be collected at is 10 Old School, Close and at this point the call fails and no further information is recorded.

I have provided the Police with a copy of this recording, which I can now produce as evidence marked exhibit LAR/5. I can also produce a screenshot of this recording as evidence marked exhibit LAR/6.

On the 29th of July 2024 at 11:14:29hrs we received a further call from the telephone number logged as 07428362306, which was again directed to our automated system. The recording again says "Hi Simon". The customer is again asked to confirm that they wish to be collected from 10 Old School Close and they again press number one to confirm that this is the case. The customer is asked to confirm the destination and he states that it is 34A Hart Street. The automated system asks the customer to press one to confirm that their destination is 34A Hart Street, Southport which the customer does.

This ride was allocated to a driver called  At the time  was driving a taxi which had the individual call sign of  The taxi is a Toyota CHR which is white in colour with a registration number

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Statement of

**Liam Anthony RICE**

I have provided the Police with a copy of this recording, which I can now produce as evidence marked exhibit LAR/7. I can also produce a screenshot of this recording as evidence marked exhibit LAR/8.

I have checked the recording for this journey on the Cab 9 system. I can confirm that the customer was collected at 11:31:03hrs. The Cab 9 system shows that vehicle arrived at the Yard of 34A Hart Street at 11:44:48hrs however the job was completed on at 11:49:16hrs on Brompton Road, which is just around the corner.

I have provided the Police with the Cab 9 recording relating to this journey as evidence marked exhibit LAR/9.

I have also provided the Police with screen shots of this journey taken from the Cab 9 system as evidence marked exhibit LAR/10.

We have retained records of all of our taxi bookings dating back to 2021. I can confirm that other than the bookings described above, we have had no other booking from 10 Old School Close, Banks. We have also had no bookings made by a person by the name of Axel RUDAKUBANA or from the mobile phone number 07428362306.

I have read this statement and been given an opportunity to alter the contents of it. I can confirm that this statement is an accurate account of the information I have supplied to the Police.

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	URN
Statement of	<b>Liam Anthony RICE</b>
Statement taken by (print name)	Detective Constable 1807 Matthew CORCORAN, North Wales Police
Station	Force Major Incident Team
Date, time statement taken	12:30hrs 8/8/2024