

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 ██████████

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

Occupation : Trainer Assessor

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 ██████████ (digitally signed)

Date Wednesday, 11 January 2023

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

I first made contact with Fairview Taxis on the 12th of September 2022 after being recommended to them by one of my friends who has driven for them for several years. I visited them at their unit in Highbridge, we all got on well. I wanted to earn some money by driving for them. I gave Dave KING my driving licence and was told that a DBS check would need to be completed.

On 13th of September, I received an email from U Check (DBS check) to confirm they had received the details I had submitted, the rest to be completed by Fairview Taxis.

At no point have Fairview Taxis ever told me that I needed a Private Hire Driver's licence or asked to see one.

On the morning of 15th September, Gemma KING collected me from home and took me on the school run that I would be doing. This was from Rooksbridge to Hugh Sexey School in the morning and reverse at the end of school. After collecting the 9-year-old boy and taking him to school, the car was then left with me. It was a Vauxhall Insignia but I do not recall the registration number, and I was told I was allowed to drive it as it had a sign in the back window saying "SSDC School/Hospital transport".

My payslip was also emailed to me on a Friday, and I was paid by bank transfer on the following Monday. My bank statement shows the payment was made by Fairview Min Ltd

Fairview Taxis asked me to do airport runs for their customers. I did my first airport run to Heathrow on the 23rd of September, this was using the 8-seater Renault Trafic ██████████ I then did several other Heathrow and Bristol transfers using 7 and 8 seaters and two in the car. I also did a hospital run to Weston General and back in the car. Mostly, the fares were paid direct to Fairview by the customer, but for these journey's the passengers paid the fare to me :

- Weston Hospital run
- Burnahm to Bristol Airport return
- Rose Cottage to Bristol Airport

Signature: P.Quinton

Signature witnessed by:

Continuation of Statement of: Patrick QUINTON

We are to Sheppy return
Journeys on the 21st October.
For those jobs, I handed the cash in at the Fairview office.

I kept the Vauxhall Insignia at home and collected and returned the other vehicles to Fairview at their unit in Highbridge. I was told I was insured, and none of the vehicles I used had taxi plates on them.

Gemma KING emailed to me on a Friday with the following weeks work, from fairviewminibuses@yahoo.com. I exhibit the emails as follows :

16th September as HG/01
23rd September as HG/02
30th September as HG/03
7th October as HG/04
14th October as HG/05

On the 21st October 2022 I was doing another airport transfer with passengers going to Bristol Airport. I was in [REDACTED] which Fairview Taxis had given me to complete the job. I was unaware it was a Private Hire Vehicle and there were no markings on the vehicle to indicate it was a licensed vehicle to me. I was also unaware that I needed a Private Hire Driver's licence to be able to use it.

I was stopped at the airport by the police which is when I became aware that I could not complete the Hire and Reward work given to me by Fairview Taxis without a Private Hire Drivers licence. I have never held such a licence.

I was completely shocked as I am an honest person and have not driven for Fairview Taxis since.

Signature: P.Quinton

Signature witnessed by: