

**WITNESS STATEMENT****Criminal Procedure Rules, r 16.2; Criminal Justice Act 1967, s.9**URN 

45	AA	20098	20
----	----	-------	----

Statement of: Shelagh McLove

Age if under 18: OVER 18

*(if over 18 insert 'over 18')*

Occupation: Full time mother

**Contact Number:** 07747 555 5555

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: Shelagh McLove (witness)

Date: 01/06/2020

I am writing this statement in relation to my partner, Eoin McLove.

I have been in a relationship with Eoin for around 5 years. We married 4 years ago and had one child together aged 3. At first our relationship was fine but Eoin started to be very aggressive towards me a year after we met whenever he was drinking alcohol.

Eoin's behaviour towards me escalated when he started checking my phone and asking who I had been talking with on a daily basis. Eoin seemed to have developed a drinking problem and that was when things in our relationship got very bad.

When I fell pregnant in 2016 I hoped that Eoin would calm his drinking but unfortunately things got worse and that is when he first assaulted me. I was three months pregnant when he first hit me giving me a black eye. I did not report that to the Police at the time. Around a month later he assaulted me again hitting me to the head and the stomach. I suffered some stomach pains and was taken to hospital after I called the Police. I refused to provide a statement. Social services became involved as a result of this. This initially seemed to calm Eoin and things were ok for a while.

After our son was born in March 17 things escalated again as Eoin's drinking became worse. He became annoyed whenever my mother visited and would demand to know what we had been talking about. It got to the point where I would make excuses to stop my mum visiting. Around April 17 Eoin assaulted me again, Eoin returned home drunk, asked me why his dinner wasn't ready and when I said I was busy he picked up a shoe and hit me with it. It caused a cut to my head and I grabbed our child, ran from the house and called the Police. Eoin was arrested and convicted of assaulting me. At this point social services again became involved and I assured them that I had ended my relationship with Eoin. I continued to see Eoin however and he moved back in around June 17.

Eoin assaulted me again in December 17, the Police were called but I did not provide a statement. This time Social services took our child into care until I could show them my relationship with Eoin had ended.

Our relationship continued and Social services applied to the court for our child to be taken away from us. I had hoped that would not happen as Eoin had stopped drinking, but he started again in January 18.

Eoin has assaulted me at least three times in 2018 and four times in 2019. I didn't report any of these to the Police.

Eoin however assaulted me with a wooden spoon at Christmas 2019 which resulted in me becoming unconscious as he also kicked me on the ground. I went to hospital and did provide a statement. Eoin was given a 12 month sentence in relation to this and I had hoped that his time in prison would allow him to address his alcohol addiction.

When Eoin was released this week he immediately returned to my house. He assured me he had given up drinking. Eoin went out today around 11am after we had an argument. My friend Lucy Doyle next door came around to comfort me and we shared 3 bottles of wine from around 3pm. Lucy went home at 8pm.

Eoin returned at 9pm. I knew straight away he had been drinking and we argued about this as he said he would stop. I asked him to go to bed to sleep it off so we could talk in the morning. Eoin suddenly picked up the TV remote and shouted, "DON'T TELL ME WHAT TO FUCKING DO, I'VE JUST SERVED 6 MONTHS BECAUSE OF YOU". Eoin then struck me twice to the left hand side of my face with a lot of force. The force of the blows made me fall backwards into the kitchen as we were stood in the living room.

I managed to run to the bathroom, locked it and called the Police. Eoin was shouting at me in the background threatening me if I called the police telling me it would send him back to prison.

Eoin then left the house and I realised he had taken our car. I told the Police this as I was still on the phone.

As a result of this assault I have sustained a cut just to the side of my left eye and my face is starting to swell. I did not want to attend hospital and used a cold compress to stop the bleeding. I have taken photos of this on my phone.

No one has the right to assault me and I want Eoin to be prosecuted. He assured me he would stop drinking but he hasn't and I now feel our relationship is at an end.

Signature: Shelagh McLove

Signature witnessed by: PC 1989 Thomas