

WITNESS STATEMENT

In the County Court sitting at Stafford

Claim Number: F4ST-2024-00291

Between: Mrs Sarah Thompson (Claimant) and Mr James Carter (Defendant)

STATEMENT OF: MR ROBERT CHEN

I, Robert Chen, of 14 Riverside Close, Stafford, ST16 3PQ, will say as follows:

1. I am making this statement in relation to a road traffic accident I witnessed on 22 January 2024 at approximately 5:15 PM at the junction of the A34 and B5066, Stafford. I was walking my dog along the pavement adjacent to the junction and had a clear, unobstructed view of the incident.
2. I observed a silver Ford Focus (which I now know to be driven by Mrs Thompson) stationary at the traffic lights, which were showing red. The vehicle had been stopped for approximately 10-15 seconds. Traffic was moderate for that time of day.
3. I then saw a dark-coloured BMW approaching from behind at what appeared to be an excessive speed for the conditions. The driver did not appear to brake or slow down before colliding with the rear of the Ford Focus. The impact was significant - I heard a loud bang and saw the Ford Focus pushed forward approximately 2-3 metres.
4. Immediately after the collision, I approached the vehicles to check on the occupants. Mrs Thompson appeared shaken and was holding the back of her neck. She said she was in pain. The driver of the BMW, a young man, got out of his vehicle and I heard him say words to the effect of 'I'm sorry, I was looking at my phone'. He appeared unhurt.
5. I called 999 and the police and ambulance service arrived within approximately 15 minutes. I provided my details to the attending police officer (PC Williams, badge number 4872) and offered to provide a statement, which I did at Stafford Police Station on 25 January 2024.
6. I confirm that the weather was clear and dry, visibility was good despite it being dusk, and street lighting was operational. The road surface was in good condition with no defects visible.

I believe the facts stated in this witness statement are true. I understand that proceedings for contempt of court may be brought against anyone who makes, or causes to be made, a false statement in a document verified by a statement of truth without an honest belief in its truth.

Signed: R. Chen

Dated: 2 February 2024