

Lancashire County Council

Statement of Witness

(Criminal Procedure Rules, r 16.2;
Criminal Justice Act 1967, s9)

STATEMENT OF (name of witness): Angela Lomax
Age of witness: Over 18
Occupation of witness: Trading Standards Manager

This statement (consisting of 1 page 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.

Dated the 25th January 2023

Signed:

I am employed by Lancashire County Council Trading Standards Service as a Trading Standards manager based at County Hall, Pitt Street, Preston PR1 0LD.

On Wednesday the 25th January 2023, whilst in Ormskirk I visited Ormskirk Superstore, 16 Aughton St, Ormskirk, L39 3BW where I made a test purchase of cigarettes.

I entered the store at around 13.20. As I entered, I saw a male sat behind the counter. I assumed the male to be a member of staff he was of Asian

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appearance, of average height, slim with dark short hair. He was wearing an orange coat and looked to be around 30 years of age. I asked him if I could buy 20 Richmond cigarettes. He asked "Richmond"? I replied Yes. He asked "20"? I replied "Yes" He moved and turned to behind the counter at the back and opened a sliding door decorated with Challenge 25 documents, this looked to be a cigarette cupboard. He took a packet of cigarettes from out of the cupboard, showed them to me and said "this Richmond?" I said yes. He said they were £11.80. I had a £10 note and went to get £2 coins from my purse and handed it to him. He started to give me the change and said do you want cheaper ones. I replied yes he then went underneath the counter and produced a blue packet of Richmond Kingsize handing them to me saying you should have asked he then went onto say something

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about next time he then proceeded to give me a number of £1 coins back as change . I left the store with the Blue packet of Richmond King Size which I believe to be counterfeit.

I produce in evidence, x1 packet of Richmond cigarettes, marked as exhibit **AL1** The cigarettes were different from the initial more expensive packet, not in standardised packaging and were suspected to be counterfeit. I kept the cigarettes upon my person in a signed sealed envelope.
