

Transcript of a Statement of Imran Nasim taken by Steve Cox and Karl Martin at Commerce House on the 2nd December 2013.

I Imran Nasim have ongoing problems with James Nicholson for a while. Incident started about 1:00am on the Sunday 3rd November. In the early morning I was travelling along Princess Road East. A car coming down the street from the opposite direction I recognised as James Nicholson. At this point neither car would reverse. Narrow street and the two cars could not pass each other (face to face). Road works in Street.

My passenger got out of the car to speak with James Nicholson. My passenger returned and advised me he was not going to move. James Nicholson told my passenger to bugger/piss off. Passenger (customer) told me to wait and not move (on his bill), which last several minutes. Passenger advised me after a while to reverse. Passenger then made a complaint to drivers (James Nicholson) taxi company. I dropped my passenger off. I wanted some details from passenger. He went into his house but never came back out. I left after 15 minutes.

At about 3:00 am I was travelling down the sea front by Tor Abbey. I stopped at the traffic lights at the bottom of Shedden Hill Road. I was the front taxi car at the lights. Good manners but unwritten rule is that another taxi driver will not pass the taxi in front in an attempt to beat them to the taxi rank.

The lights changed, I went to drive on but noticed a taxi coming up behind me. At Mojo (Palm Court Hotel) there are cones there as the road merges. I braked because I could see James Nicholson, during the braking James Nicholson drove past me, which annoyed me.

I got back to the rank. I got out of my car. I approached James Nicholson who was at the rank sat in his car. I said to him what are you playing at. He kept giving me hand gestures. We were shouting at each other. I was annoyed I had nearly smashed my car. I don't recall what we said to each other. James Nicholson window was closed at this time.

He then drove his vehicle forward as the rank pulled forward. At this stage I began to turn to walk away. At this point he wound down his window and said fuck off you Paki.

At this point I had a moment of weakness and retaliated. It all happened so quick. I think I either punched him or shoved him in the face. A taxi marshal I think then grabbed me and pushed me to the floor.

The taxi marshal had me on the floor. I said get off. The taxi marshal said for some reason he is resisting and ask to call for backup.

I was on the floor and could see a Police officer running towards me. This all happened on the sort rank. The Police officer arrived and the taxi marshal picked me up of the floor. I did not notice the direction the taxi marshal had come from.