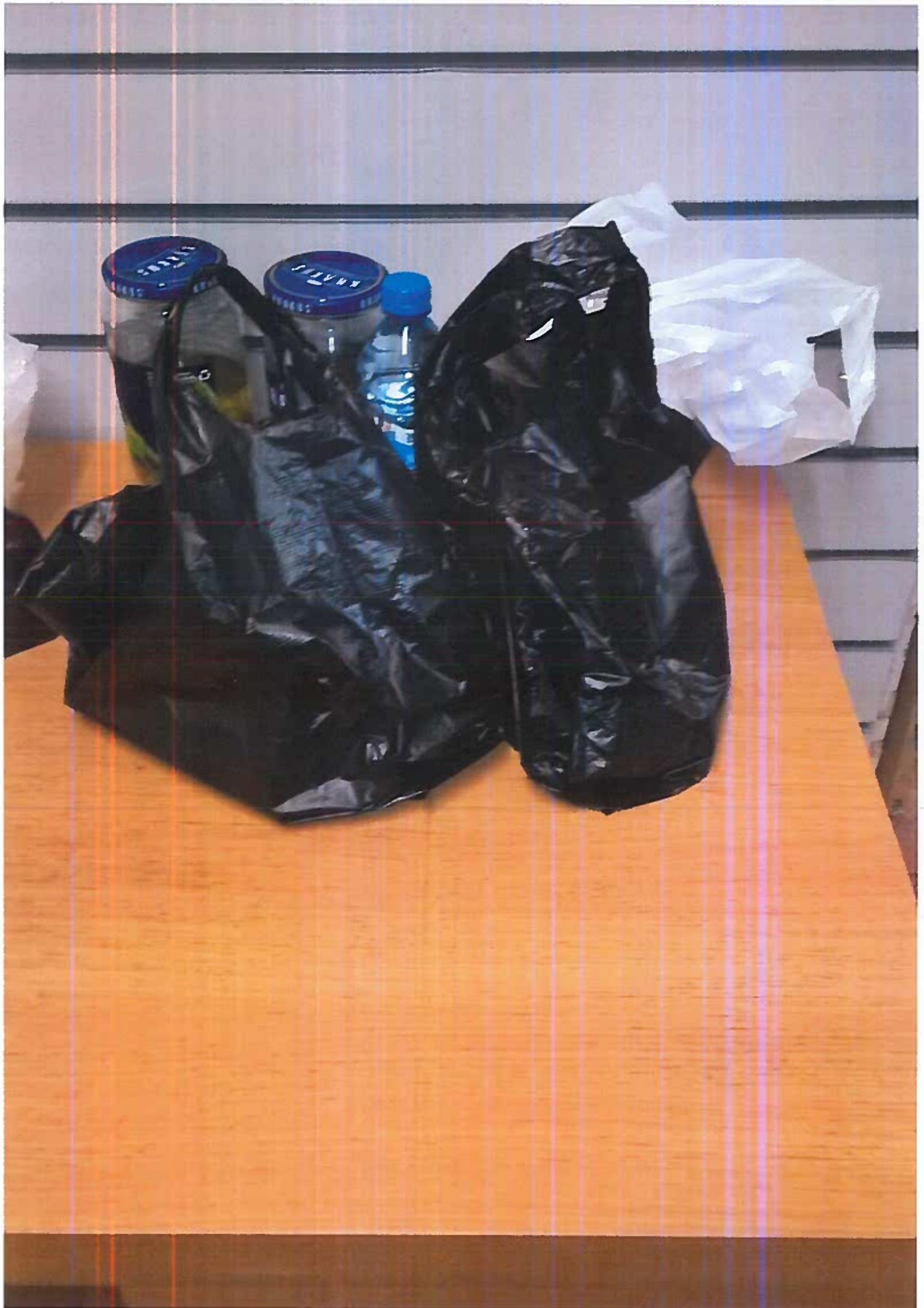


My name is Irene CAPEL and I am also known as Jay CAPEL. I am employed by Devon County Council as a part of the Devon and Somerset Trading Standards Service as a Trading Standards Officer. I was previously employed by Somerset County Council Trading Standards Service as a Senior Trading Standards Officer until the amalgamation and joint commissioning of the Devon County Council Trading Standards Service and the Somerset County Council Trading Standards Service in May 2013 and the Torbay Trading Standards Service in 2017. I have 18 years' experience in Trading Standards enforcement, including being the Lead Trading Standards Officer for age-restricted products which incorporates illicit tobacco and licensing issues. I am a duly authorised officer for the purposes of the Consumer Protection Act 1987.

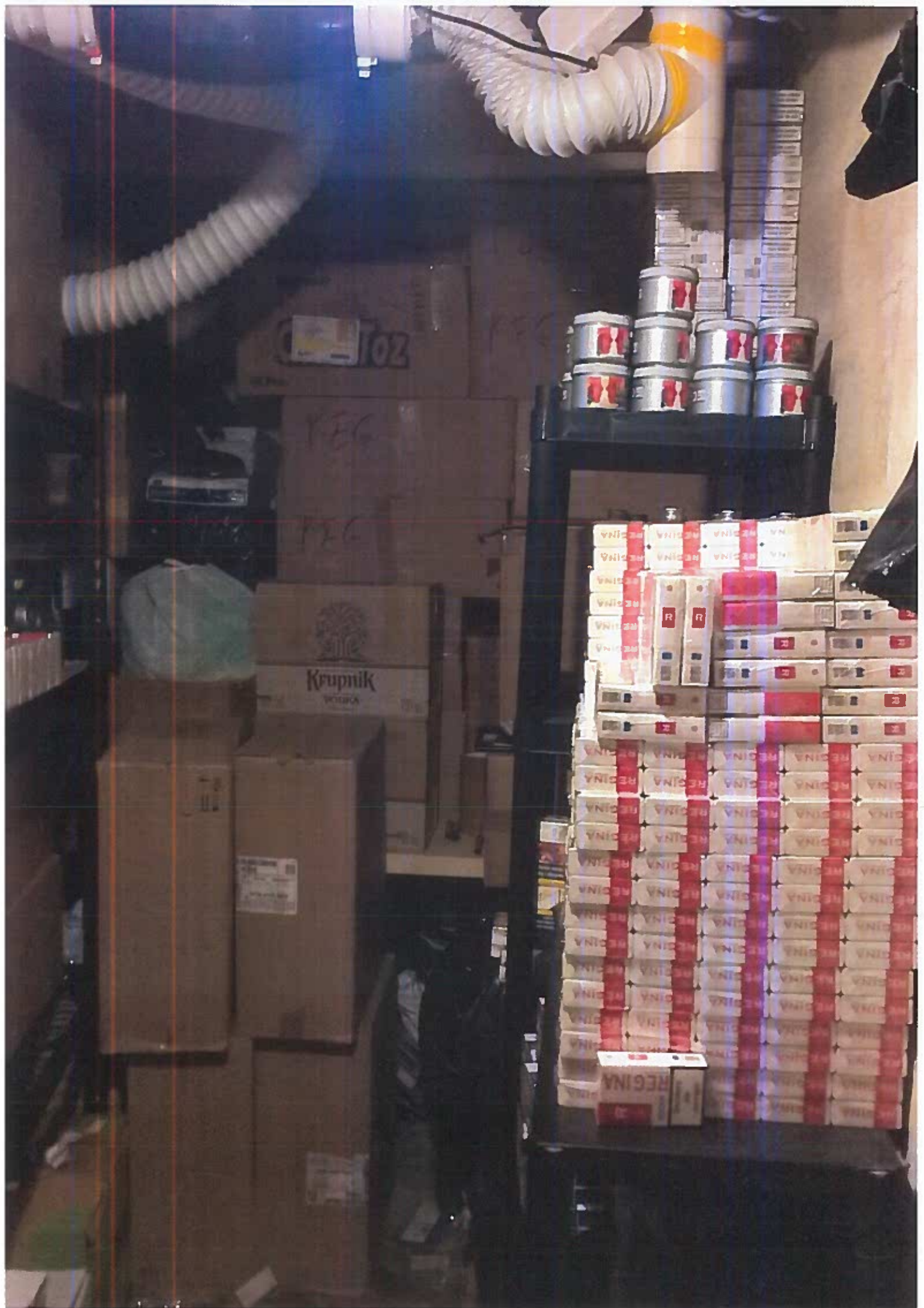
During the morning of 10 November 2018, I assisted Her Majesty Revenue and Customs (HMRC) officers in an operation at Zakopane, 16 Market Street, Torquay, Devon TQ1 3AQ. This operation was the consequence of intelligence received by this Service and HMRC that illicit tobacco was being sold from the aforementioned premises. This operation used specially trained search dogs who are trained to detect concealed tobacco. There was also a small number of cigarettes found on a desk in small black plastic bags which the owner of the premises, Mr. Wali Ahmed KHADER, claimed belonged to an employee. These cigarettes did not have the necessary fiscal duty paid mark. Later that morning I was told by an HMRC officer that the dogs had indicated to a wall in the storage area upstairs and subsequently tobacco products, cigarettes, hand rolling tobacco (HRT) and vodka were found in a chamber behind this wall. I have attached photographs taken by myself on a mobile telephone of the tobacco as found insitu. These photographs have not been altered or enhanced.

I was later informed by HMRC that in total an estimated 478,120 cigarettes (an estimated 23,000.00 x packets of 20 cigarettes), 137 Kgs of HRT and 181.3 litres of vodka were seized from the premises. Currently this Service is making enquires as to whether any of these tobacco products are counterfeit with regards to possible trade mark offences.

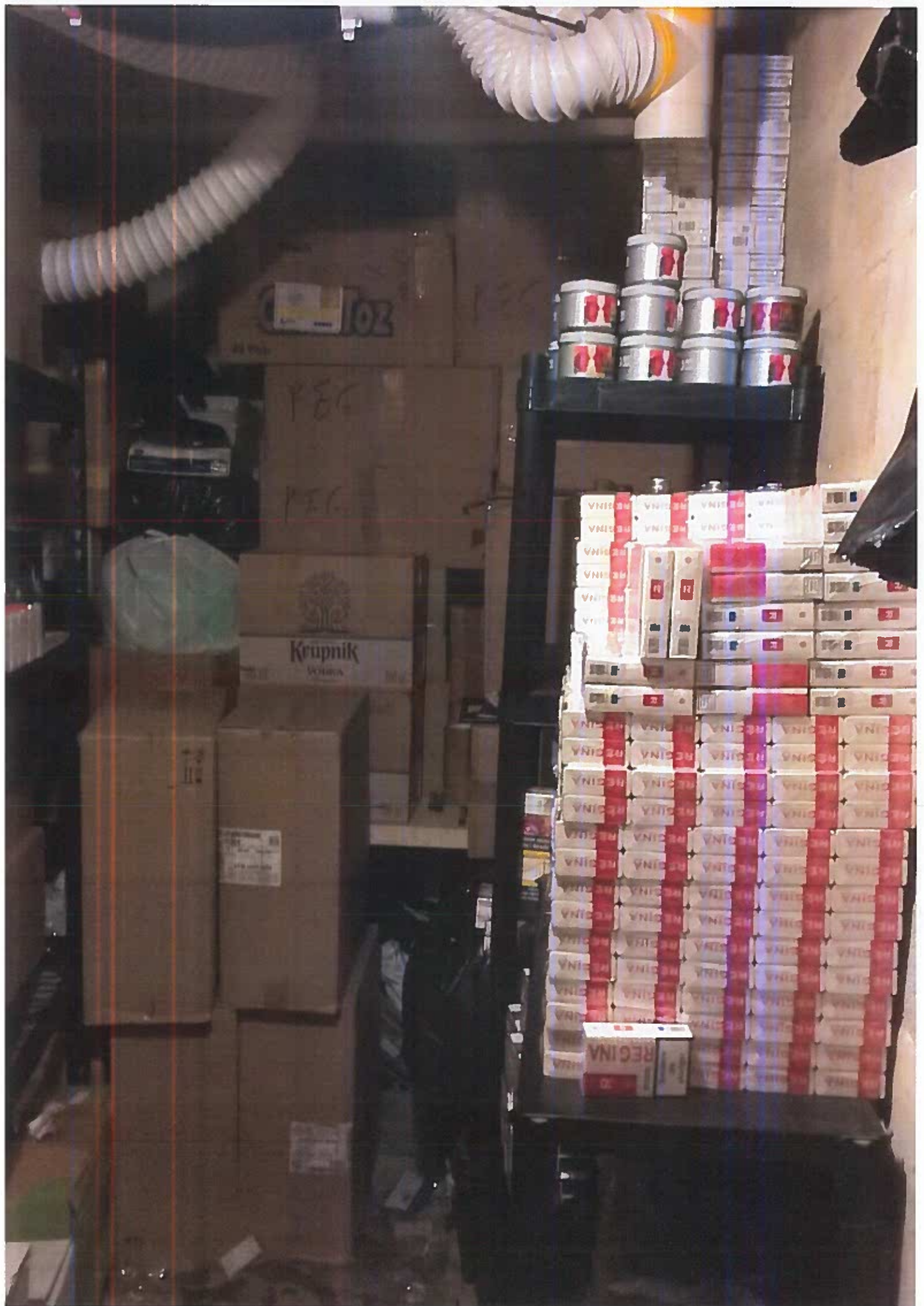
I am willing to support any action deemed necessary and I am prepared to attend a Licensing Committee hearing.







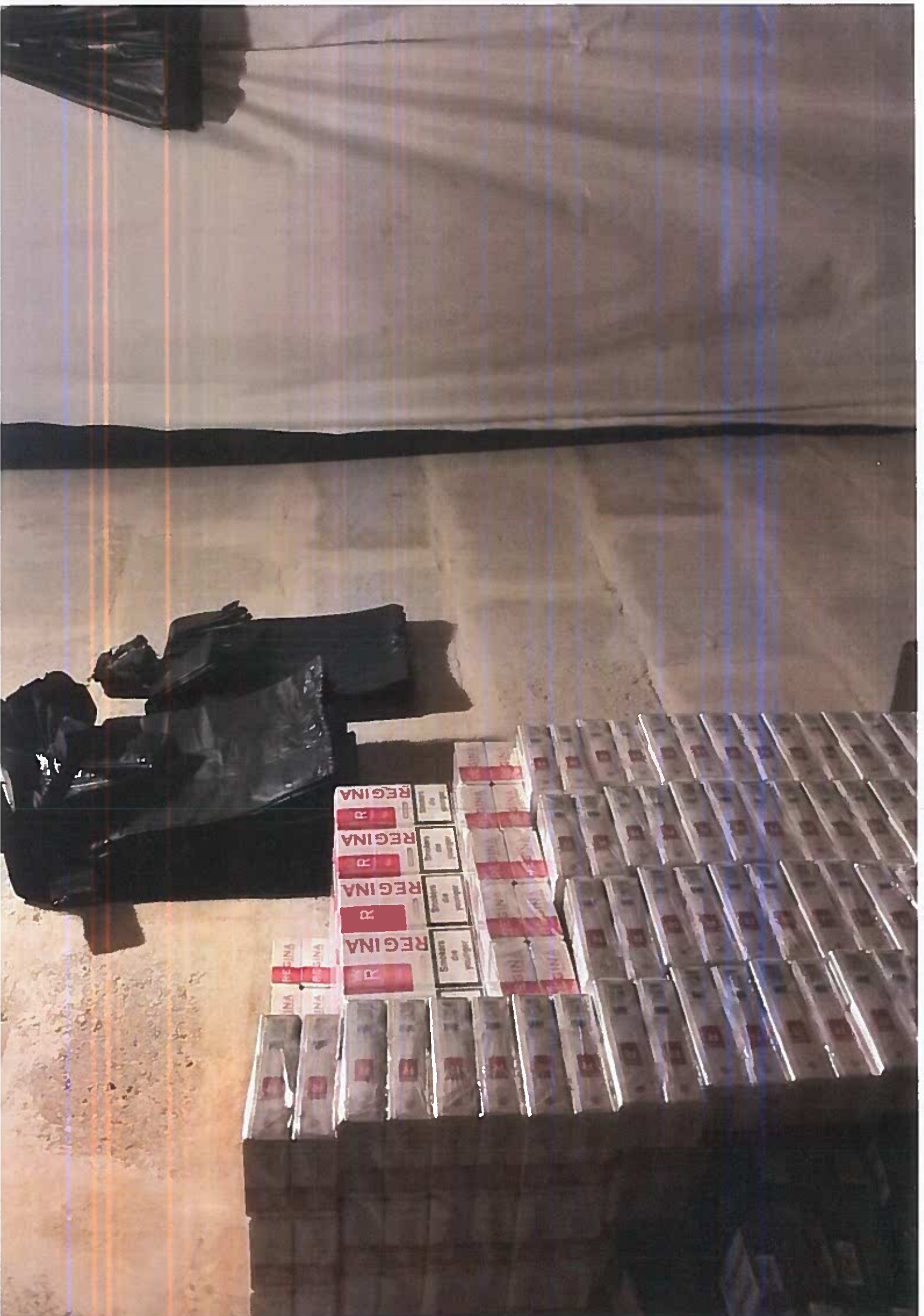




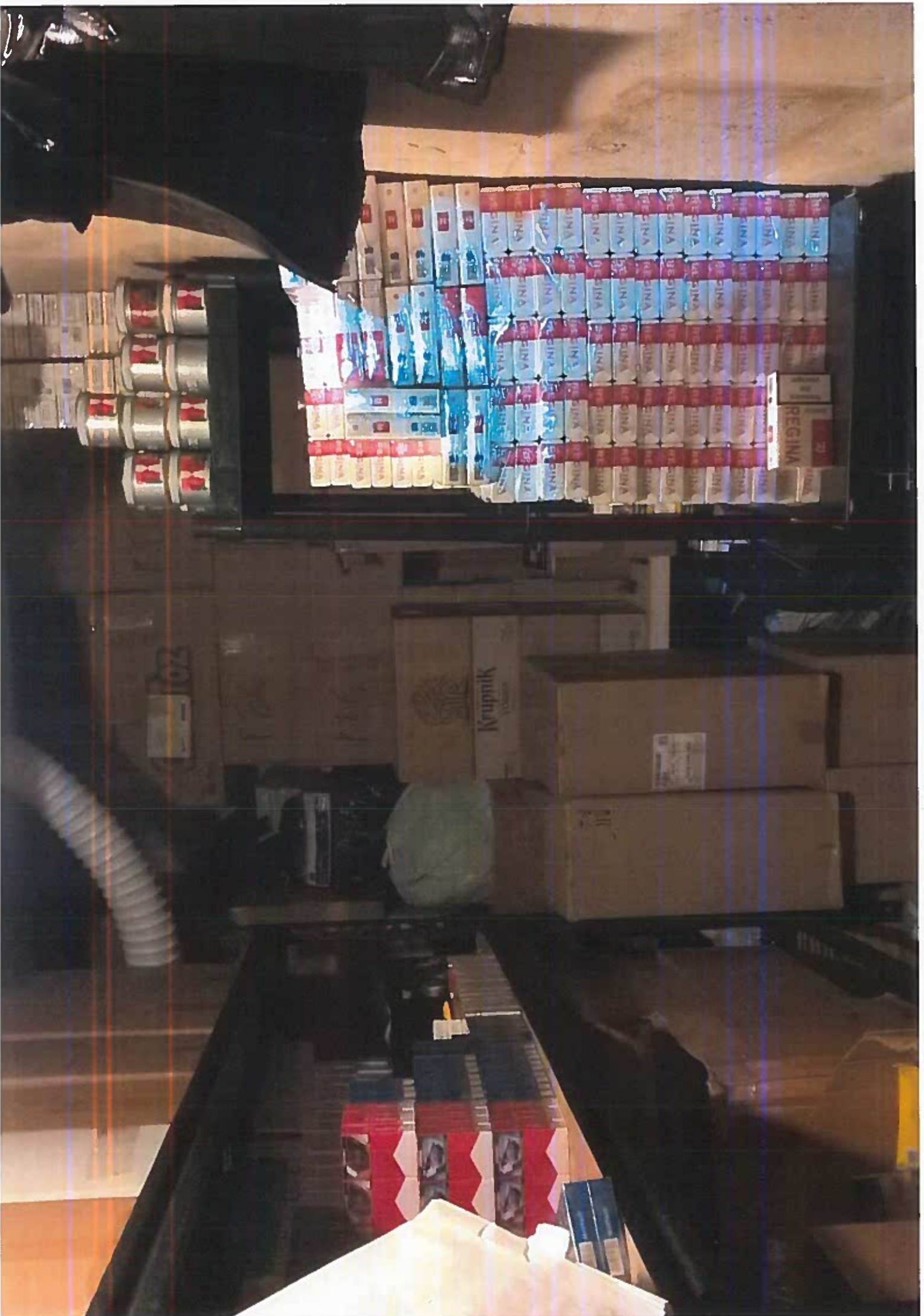












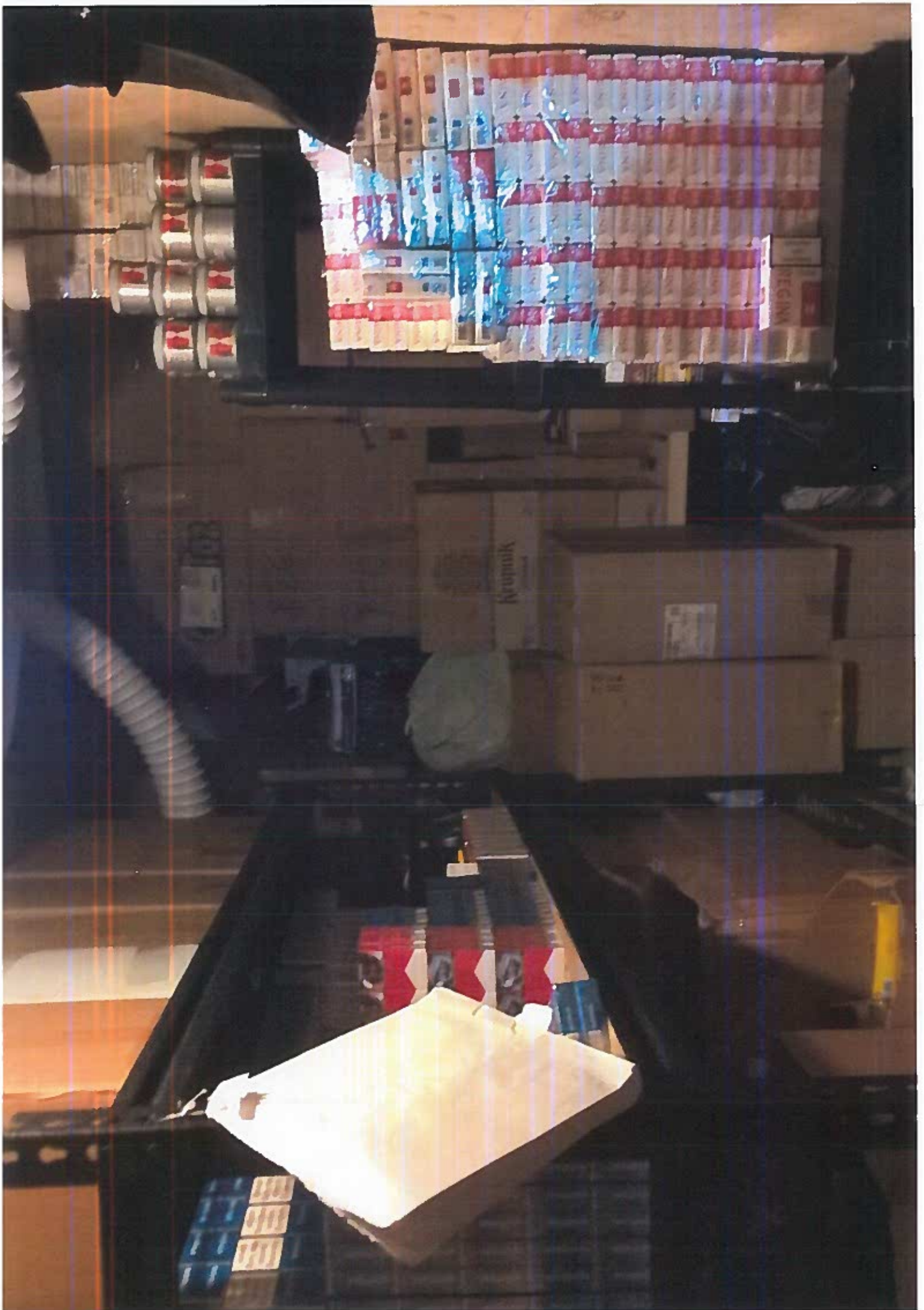
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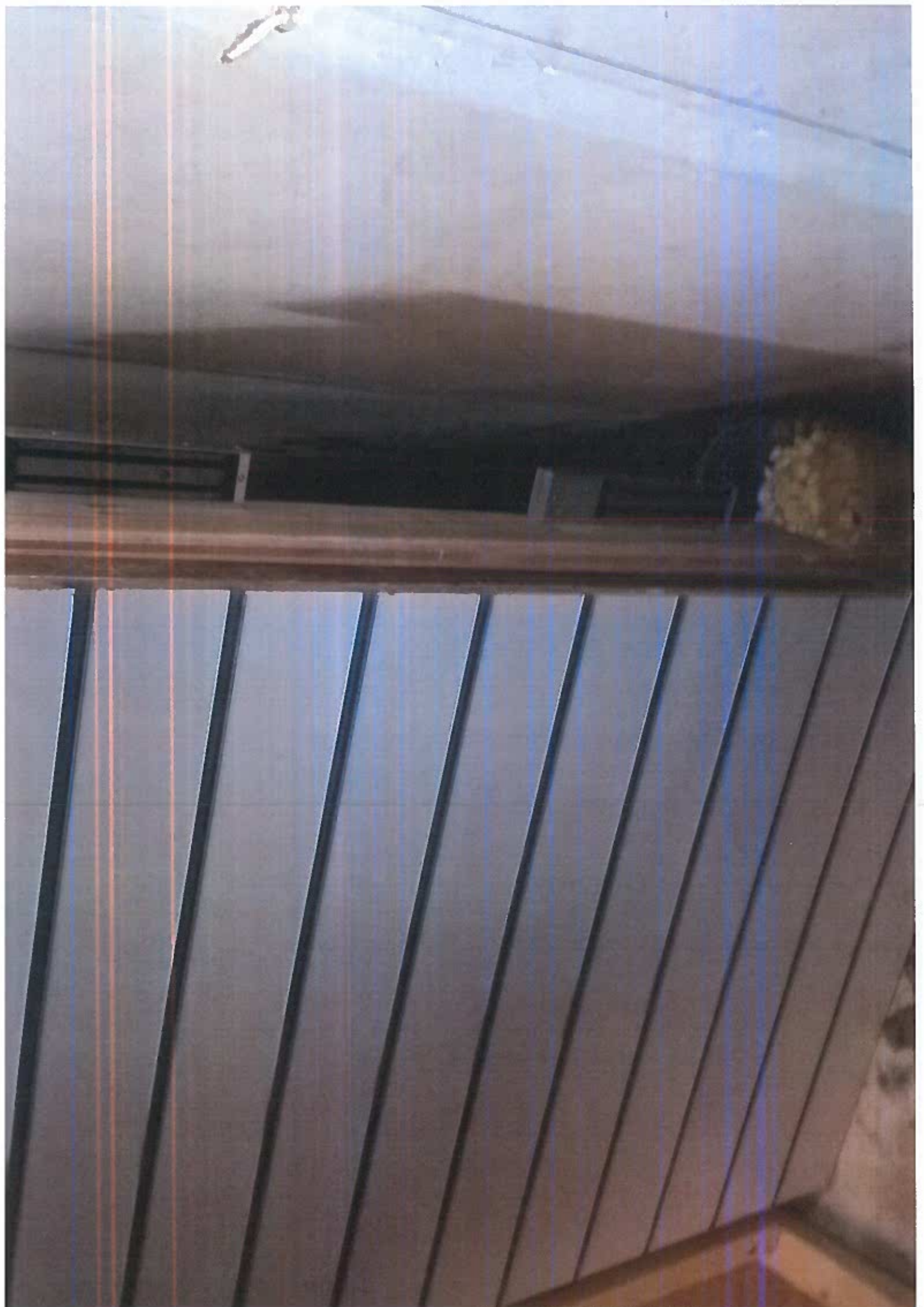
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Smoking causes fatal lung cancer

Smoking causes fatal lung cancer

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Smoking causes fatal lung cancer

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