

From: Tim Frost [REDACTED]
Sent: 29 December 2022 12:06
To: Rackley, Shaun <Shaun.Rackley@torbay.gov.uk>
Subject: Mitigating circumstances

Dear Mr Rackley

In answer to your letter dated 28 December 2022.

I am sincerely sorry that I did not give you enough detail about my ongoing Court case. I was not being duplicitous, I genuinely thought I was providing enough information as the case had been adjourned once more.

The quote from Devon Live has no detail and I can see why you would be very concerned. The assault happened because my ex-partner and I had a drunken argument which escalated outside. She ran outside and sat down in the road whilst shouting at me. It was late in the evening and dark. I was worried for her and for myself that if a car came along, it could cause a nasty accident. I tried to lift her, however, due to my drunken state and her fighting against me, I couldn't. I therefore ended up pulling her out of the road causing grazes and scratches to her buttocks. The police were called by a neighbour because of the fracas. I was arrested and my ex-partner pressed charges.

In my police interview, I admitted to causing the grazes, stressed there was no malicious intention and that I had unwittingly caused them. However, they advised me that due to my ex-partner pressing charges they had to continue with the process.

The grazes are the cause of the actual bodily harm charge. My solicitor tried to get the charge reduced to common assault but this was blocked by my ex-partner.

The incident happened in October 2021 and as you know I have been on bail since this time. It will not come to a conclusion until February 2023 - this is due to a request from the Magistrate for a Probation Officers assessment which was not done at the initial request. The outcome of this report will help to inform the final decision for my sentence. I am waiting for the date of this meeting to be finalised but it is expected to be in January.

I have continued to work and have never done anything that would be a cause for concern to you. I love my job and I have always had a great rapport with customers, who frequently give me positive feedback. Since becoming a taxi driver in 2019, I have worked through Covid and worked hard to build up a regular customer base who are happy to wait for me rather than use anyone else.

I would not do anything to jeopardise my job, as I have too much to lose. I have a ten year old daughter to support and I am now in a new relationship and very happy; we are expecting a baby in the summer. My new partner is a professional person and well aware of my circumstances and has been an amazing support.

I can't apologise enough for you finding out the information in the way that you did. I had no idea myself that this had been reported and published in the local media. I would not want to offend you or cause difficulty to you.

I am truly shocked by the reporting of my case in the local media especially as the outcome has not been finalised.

I can't stress enough that there was no ulterior motive to my not giving as much detail as you clearly needed. I was not trying to hide anything and I thought I was doing the right thing by waiting for the final outcome.

The information I have given you is the truth and I hope this will provide the mitigating circumstances necessary for the Committee to allow me to continue working.

Kind regards,

Tim Frost.