

Witness Name: MATTHEW JOHNSON

Statement No: WITN0023001

Dated: 29th October 2025

THE NOTTINGHAM INQUIRY

FIRST WITNESS STATEMENT OF PC MATTHEW JOHNSON

I, MATTHEW JOHNSON, will say as follows: -

1. My name is Matthew Johnson.
2. This witness statement is made to assist the Nottingham Inquiry (the "**Inquiry**") with the matters set out in the Rule 9 Request dated 27th June 2025 (the "**Request**").
3. In making this statement, I have refreshed my memory by reading the Incident Log for Incident 0483_03092021 (**NGPF0000023**) and the Occurrence Log 21000512528 (**NGPF0000027**). Were it not for the terrible events of 13th June 2023 I would likely not have had any real recollection of this incident other than it preceding a long period of ill health for myself. However, as a result of those events, I retained the knowledge that I had a minor administrative involvement and was acutely aware of Calocane's involvement in both.

My Background

4. I joined Nottinghamshire Police in 2010 as a Police Community Support Officer (PCSO). As I joined the Police at a fairly late age, I had already had a varied

career working in pubs, as a Driving Instructor, in IT and Data Management before being promoted into a Health and Safety management/Team Leader role.

5. I was appointed as a Constable in 2016 with Staffordshire Police, where I served as a response officer. I successfully completed the full basic training and my two year probation period. I was then trained as a STO (a Specially Trained Officer) in relation to attending the initial report of serious sexual offences, along with public order training and response driving.
6. In May 2019 I transferred to Nottinghamshire Police as a Constable. In late 2020 I joined Operation Reacher, a proactive team focussed on disrupting serious and organised crime, working with local communities and conducting high-visibility patrols, early morning raids, and stop-and-search operations.
7. I am currently stationed at St Ann's Police Station Nottingham as a member of the Priority Tasking Team.
8. During my time in the Police I have had frequent, I would say at least annually, inputs and training in relation to Safeguarding, the Mental Health Act 1983 and Mental Capacity Act 2005 and their operational application, and how to effectively deal with Acute Behavioural Disorders and First Aid. In recent years, as changes have occurred in the electronic submission of files to the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) and Courts, and greater focus is placed upon disclosure, I have also had several training packages and inputs which cover specific elements such as the National File Standards and our obligations in relation to the Criminal Procedure and Investigations Act 1996 (CPIA) which regulates the procedures for investigating and prosecuting criminal offences.

9. Prior to the 7th September 2021, to the best of my recollection, I had no knowledge of, or interactions with, Valdo Calocane, by that or any other name.

Events of the 3rd September 2021

10. On the 3rd September 2021, I was on leave and did not attend the incident in which PC Pritchard was assaulted by Calocane.
11. I returned to duty on the 7th September 2021. I became aware that my Operation Reacher colleague PC Pritchard had been assaulted by a male I now know to be Calocane, through discussions with PC Pritchard and the rest of my team.
12. During this day my Sergeant, Louise Ellis, requested that I complete the casefile of evidence regarding the assault to present to the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) for a charging decision. This was a purely administrative function and by the 16th September 2021 the file had been completed and forwarded to Sergeant Ellis to review. I completed it following the national file standard, which is a set of guidelines for police forces in England and Wales to prepare case files for the Crown Prosecution Service: **(NGPF0007676)**.
13. From my review of the Incident Log **(NGPF0000023)** the available witness statements from Niche Occurrence 21000512528 **(NGPF0000027)** and discussion with other attending officers and PC Pritchard, I understood the facts to be that my team had been requested to attend to assist the execution of a warrant obtained by Approved Mental Health Professionals (AMHP) under section 135 of the Mental Health Act 1983 and the subject Calocane had suddenly become violent towards PC Pritchard.

14. I read and was told that Calocane had been Tasered, PAVA incapacitant spray had been used and Calocane had to be physically restrained to prevent him causing further harm. My understanding was that PC Pritchard had been punched several times in the face and then headbutted. I understood that PC Pritchard believed that he had been targeted as he was the only male officer present.
15. Due to the circumstances of the assault and the fact that Calocane was so unwell that a warrant was required to compel him to be detained in a Mental Health facility for assessment, and that he had subsequently been detained following the assessment, I felt it was unlikely that a charge would be authorised by the CPS in this case. However, I had never presented such a case for a charging decision before.
16. On the 23rd September 2021, I updated PC Pritchard, as the victim, that the file was with the Force's File Preparation Unit. The role of that Unit is to check files for compliance with CPS guidance on file standards before submission to the CPS.
17. On the 6th October 2021, I updated PC Pritchard that the file had been submitted by the Force's File Preparation Unit to the CPS.
18. On the 12th October 2021, I updated PC Pritchard that the CPS target date for a charging decision was the 3rd November 2021.
19. On the 5th November and 23rd November 2021, I updated PC Pritchard that the matter was still with the CPS for a charging decision.
20. On or about the 25th November 2021, the file was returned from the CPS with an action plan requiring four further investigative tasks to be undertaken.

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21. The four matters which required action were:
- 21.1 remedying the lack of witness statements from the AMHPs present at the time of the assault.
 - 21.2 requesting further information in relation to Calocane's mental health condition in order to be able to apply the CPS's Mental Health Policy;
 - 21.3 requesting a copy of the submitted Use of Force Form (UOFF) in relation to the Taser discharge at the incident;
 - 21.4 requesting information around previous incidents in which Calocane was said to have broken into two flats.
22. On the 9th December 2021 I spoke to AMHP Amie Staples who had made the original call requesting police assistance on the 3rd September 2021. She told me that she was willing to provide a statement in relation to the events of the day and the process relating to the application for the s.135 warrant, but that she was unable to comment on any treatment subsequently given to Calocane. She provided me with the details of the other attending AMHP Dr Ben Lomas in an email (**NGPF0000029**) as he would be able to provide me with more information.
23. On the same day I rang Dr Lomas and left a voicemail requesting contact.
24. On the 16th December 2021 I spoke with Dr Lomas on the telephone. He informed me that he had just contracted the Covid 19 virus and also had leave booked into the New Year. He said that he would provide a statement covering the reasons for the s.135 warrant, the incident itself and details of the

- post warrant diagnosis and treatment. He provided his e-mail address and I sent him a blank e-mail confirming my contact details.
25. On the same date, I updated the CPS that the requested actions were unlikely to be completed until around the 14th January 2022.
 26. Also on the 16th December 2021, I provided an update to PC Pritchard.
 27. On the 28th December 2021, I sent a further email to Dr LOMAS attaching a data request form which he had asked for on the 16th December. I provided him with details of my availability for the purposes of meeting to enable me to take a witness statement from him.
 28. On the 11th January 2022, I received a copy of the Use of Force (UOF) forms in relation to the use of Taser at the 3rd September 2021 incident (**NGPF0000034** and **NGPF0000036**). There had been a problem as the Force's UOF reporting system had changed and access to the old version had been restricted, so it had been necessary for me to make a request to the Force's IT Department to obtain a full copy.
 29. On the 13th January 2022, I e-mailed Dr Lomas again to ask for him to contact me to arrange a meeting (**NGPF0000030**).
 30. On or about the 26th January 2022 I become acutely unwell and did not return to work until late June 2022. After I became ill, the file was reallocated to another officer to complete the outstanding work on the file: **(NGPF0000017)**
 31. While unwell I maintained contact with my team and I was made aware that Calocane had been charged with an offence in relation to 3rd September 2021 and then subsequently failed to appear at court.

32. I have been asked if details of the attendance and/or decisions or actions taken were communicated to: (1) Health, social services or multi-agency organisations; (2) Valdo Calocane's family; (3) Nottingham University; (4) others who might be affected by Valdo Calocane's actions. I can only say that following the incident Calocane had been detained in a secure mental health facility. In my role I maintained contact with my colleague PC Pritchard and also approached the attending AMHPs for their statements in relation to the assault.
33. I have also been asked whether there were any barriers to the sharing of information with any of the above, or any other relevant individual, body or organisation. There were no barriers, and the timescale for contact with the AMHPs was an unfortunate consequence of the effects of the pandemic and the usual high seasonal demands placed on both the Police and NHS.
34. At the time I dealt with the case, I do not believe that Calocane was under investigation for any other offences.
35. I had no contact with Calocane at any point and was not involved with any assessment or any medical or mental health procedures concerning him.
36. I have reflected on this case, and I believe that we, the Police, dealt with it appropriately and it was correctly recorded. It was not a complex case and evidence was produced which supported a charging decision.
37. I do readily acknowledge in hindsight that I should have obtained a statement from one of the attending AMHPs before submitting the file to the CPS. There are no additional actions that I can identify, that any of my colleagues could have taken prior to my involvement.

38. I have been asked to consider if there are any structural issues (regarding police policies, procedures, methodology, training etc.) which contributed to any issues I have identified. I am not able to identify any issues with this incident during the period of my involvement and am unable to make any recommendations that could help prevent any issues in respect of this matter.

Statement of Truth

I believe the content of this statement to be true. I understand that proceedings 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 of its truth.

Signed:

GRO-B

Dated: 29th October 2025

Index to First Witness Statement of MATTHEW JOHNSON

No.	URN	Document Description
1	NGPF0000023	Incident details dated 03/09/2021 by Nottingham Police re: Section 135 warrant for Valdo Calocane
2	NGPF0000027	Occurrence details re: Whilst detaining male under mental health warrant PC punched twice, dated 03/09/2021, NGPF
3	NGPF0007676	Director Generals Guidance 6 th Edition
4	NGPF0000017	File relating to incident dated 03/09/2021 re: Section 135 warrant for Valdo Calocane (including CPS Action Plan 22/11/2022 and MG06 Response to CPS)
5	NGPF0000029	Email from Amie Staples to PC Matthew Johnson. Re: VC Assessment
6	NGPF0000034	Use of Force Report, Incident 03/09/2021, Subject Valdo Calocane, Nottinghamshire Police
7	NGPF0000036	Use of Force Report, dated 03/09/2021, Nottinghamshire Police
8	NGPF0000030	Email from PC Matthew Johnson PC to Dr Benjamin Lomas. Re: Information and Statement request