

Witness Name: DEBORAH LYNCH

Statement No: WITN0041001

Dated: **22/10/2025**

THE NOTTINGHAM INQUIRY

FIRST WITNESS STATEMENT OF DEBORAH LYNCH

I, DEBORAH LYNCH, will say as follows: -

1. My name is Deborah Lynch.
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 NICHE Occurrence 22000554223 (URN: NGPF0006088).

My Background

4. I am a civilian employed by Nottinghamshire Police in the role of Warrant Officer. I have been employed by Nottinghamshire Police since 2017.
5. Prior to joining Nottinghamshire Police, I left school in 1988 and attended college where I studied Photography. On completing my course there, I worked in a Photography Studio in Birmingham, for approximately a year. I left to work at Birmingham Magistrates Court between 1990 and 1996. In 1996, I went to Australia and worked there for a year, before returning to the UK in 1997. I

worked in catering for BT from 1997 to 1999 and then rejoined the Magisterial service working for Solihull Magistrates Court between 1999 and 2005, before leaving to start a family. I returned to work in or about 2011 to work for the Anti-Social Behaviour Team at Solihull Council between 2011 and 2016. I moved to Nottinghamshire in late 2016 and got my current job as a Warrant Officer in 2017.

6. The role of Warrant Officer is to check Custody Records twice daily, in the morning and afternoon, to see if any detainees are wanted on a Warrant. If so, the record of the Warrant is then cancelled on the NICHE system, which links to the Police National Computer (PNC) to remove the record of the Warrant, so that the person is not arrested on it again in the future.
7. Notification of new warrants is either via the Bichard system from Nottingham and Mansfield Magistrates' Courts, or via Xhibit from Nottingham Crown Court.
8. Bichard is a system which automates the process of sending court results such as Warrants from magistrates' courts to the Police.
9. In my role, I will look at the record on Bichard and do checks on the person before the Warrant is entered onto the system. We need to check if the person is in prison, as then the Warrant is unlikely to be entered onto the system unless the court can do a video link with the prison. I check PNC for any warning markers on the person and then enter the Warrant onto the NICHE system to go live so that Officers can effect an arrest.
10. The Warrant is forwarded to the corresponding Police Team where the subject resides and unless the Warrant is either queried or executed, I will have no further dealings with the Warrant.

11. In addition, I am responsible for dealing with Warrants issued in another Police Force area in respect of subjects who reside in Nottinghamshire; and sending Warrants to other Police Forces if the subject's address is in that Force's area. I will also deal with any tasks or queries on Warrants which may be raised by Officers. Every month, I carry out an audit to ensure that Warrants shown as outstanding on PNC correspond with what I have on NICHE.
12. To the best of my belief, I had no knowledge of, or interactions with, Valdo Calocane (by this name or any other alias) prior to the 23rd September 2022.

Events of the 3rd September 2021

13. I had no involvement in the incident of the 3rd September 2021 or any investigation of it.
14. By reference to NICHE Occurrence 22000554223, I can see that at 9.38 am on the 23rd September 2022, I created an Occurrence for a "1st Instance Warrant not backed for Bail issued on 22/09/2022 by Nottingham Magistrates for the Arrest of Valdo Calocane for Assault by Beating Emergency Worker. 31CF1215321"
15. This particular Warrant would have been sent to me through Bichard from Nottingham Magistrates' Court. Although I cannot remember this particular Warrant, I would have checked this list for new Warrants to enter and carried out the usual checks on the subject before I entered the Warrant onto the NICHE system. Once I created the Occurrence, notice of the warrant is sent to the police team for the area where the subject resides, for them to effect an arrest. Once I send the warrant to the Police Team, the only involvement I would have thereafter would be if an Officer from that team contacts me, for

example, to notify me that a subject no longer lives at the address, in which case I would change the details of the address on NICHE and send the warrant to the police team covering the area in which the subject was then thought to be living. The Warrant for Valdo Calocane did not get returned to me for any reason prior to his arrest and was still outstanding.

16. I cannot comment on how the police teams work in effecting an arrest of someone after a warrant has been issued. All I know is that it is that teams responsibility to do all they can to locate the subject, arrest them and bring them before the court to be dealt with for the offences the Warrant was originally issued for.
17. On or about the 14th June 2023, an email was sent to relevant staff in general informing us that Valdo Calocane was in custody and that we were not to talk to anyone about him and anyone who needed to view his records would need to get prior permission to do so. I was given verbal permission to search Valdo Calocane's records by Chief Inspector Thornton of Nottinghamshire Police, for the purpose of updating our systems to show the Warrant had been executed. I no longer have a copy of the e-mail
18. By reference to the Occurrence, I can see that I made an entry at 10.19 am on the 14th June 2023 to notify the warrant had been executed.
19. Again by reference to the Occurrence Log, I can see that, on the 14th June 2023 at 10.26 am, I made an entry confirming that I had been given permission by Inspector Thornton to view the Custody, PNC and NICHE records in order to execute the warrant.
20. I have had no further involvement in the matter.

21. I have been asked what my knowledge of any issues concerning Valdo Calocane's mental health was. My answer is that I have no knowledge of Valdo Calocane's mental health.
22. I have been asked whether any details of the attendance and/or decisions or actions taken 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. My answer is that I was not involved in the original incident and have no knowledge of any contact made with other organisations or people.
23. I have 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. My answer is that I have no knowledge.
24. I have been asked whether there were any outstanding criminal matters at the time of my involvement in this matter. My answer is that I was aware that Calocane was charged with an offence because he had failed to attend court. In my role as a Warrant Officer, this is all I would need to be aware about.
25. I have been asked if I had any involvement in any assessment of Valdo Calocane, what procedures were in place as to assessment of medical and mental health issues and drug testing, and provision of appropriate medical support. My answer is that I was not involved in any assessment.
26. I have been asked to set out any relevant policies, procedures and criteria which I consider governed my role in relation to this incident and set out the ways in which I consider these were or were not met. My response is that the

procedure I followed was to record the Warrant as an occurrence, which is then circulated on PNC for Police Officers to affect an arrest.

27. I have been asked to set out any concerns that I have in respect of the police's actions in relation to this matter. My response is that I have no concerns.
28. I have been asked to set out any concerns that I have in respect of the recording of this matter. My response is that I have no concerns.
29. I have been asked if, looking back, I consider there are additional actions that I or others could have taken in respect of the incident. My response is that I cannot think of any additional actions that I could have taken.
30. I have been asked if I consider there are any structural issues (regarding police policies, procedures, methodology, training etc.) which contributed to any issues I have identified. My response is that I have not identified any issues.
31. I have been asked if there are any recommendations that I consider could help prevent any of the issues that you have identified in respect of this matter. My response is that I have not identified any issues and, on reflection, I have no recommendations to make.

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:

22/10/2025

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No.	URN	Document Description
1	NGPF0006088	Occurrence details of VC, 22/09/2022, NPF