



## PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Before completing this form please read the guidance notes at the end of the form. If you are completing the form by hand please write legibly in block capitals. In all cases ensure that your answers are inside the boxes and written in black ink. Use additional sheets if necessary

**I - Ian Green, Chief Superintendent**

**(on behalf of) the chief officer of Police for the West Midlands Police area apply for the review of a premises licence under section 53A of the Licensing Act 2003**

**1. Premises details: Seven Bar**

Postal address of premises,(or if none or not known, ordinance survey map reference or description):

**25 Lower High Street  
Post Town: Wednesbury,  
West Midlands**

Post Code (if known): **WS10 7AQ**

**2. Premises Licence details:**

Name of premise licence holder (if known): **Harjinder Singh Bagri**

Number of premise licence (if known): **007649**

**3. Certificate under section 53A (1)(B) of the Licensing Act 2003 (Please read guidance note 1)**

I confirm that this is a certificate has been given by a senior member of the police force for the police area above that in his/her opinion the above premises are associated with serious crime or serious disorder or both, and the certificate accompanies this application.

(Please tick the box to confirm)



4. Details of association of the above premises with serious crime, serious disorder or both:  
(Please read guidance note 2)

On 13<sup>th</sup> May 2022 at 23:12 hours, West Midlands Ambulance Service passed details of an alleged stabbing incident at the licensed Premises located at 25 Lower High Street.

At 23:15 hours, West Midlands Police received a call from the DPS of the venue stating 'there was a fight in pub; one male was waiting for ambulance to attend and that the offender was still inside the Premises'.

On attendance, a 22 year old male was found with a stab wound to his lower back. The male was slumped over the bar and had suffered significant blood loss. The victim subsequently required an operation to stop the bleeding as the stab wound had caught an artery.

The offence in this case is a Section 18 wounding with intent and would therefore constitute a serious crime for the purposes of utilising the summary review powers contained within the Licensing Act 2003. West Midlands Police contend that the Premises are involved in serious crime.

For ease of reference, the tests to determine the kinds of conduct that amount to serious crime are set out in section 81(2) and (3) (a) and (b) of the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000.

Those tests are that the conduct:

(a) constitutes an offence for which a person who is 21 years of age or over with no previous convictions could reasonably be expected to be sentenced to imprisonment for 3 years or more; or

(b) Involves the use of violence, results in substantial financial gain or is conduct by a large number of persons in pursuit of a common purpose.

Force CID Officers accompanied by the local Neighbourhood Policing Sergeant attended the venue on 14<sup>th</sup> May 2022 and obtained the CCTV footage available at the venue. Aside from the seriousness of the incident, a number of other concerns have come to light from viewing the CCTV:

- 1) The venue has 16 cameras, 4 of which were not working. Additionally, the time stamp on footage is incorrect and the time on the footage is approximately 1 hour and 3 minutes slow. It is also noted from viewing the footage that the area where the incident takes place has no CCTV coverage. The CCTV of the garden area of the venue is of poor quality and the coverage of the outside area is poor.
- 2) Whilst the victim is slumped over the bar area, customers continue to be served alcohol by the bar staff despite it being evident someone is seriously injured and blood is pouring from a wound. The lights remain off or at a low level indicating that normal trading is continuing despite the incident.
- 3) At one point door staff lock the entrance to the venue however the CCTV shows there is no active management of the door and customers unlock the door and leave and at one point, new customers are allowed into the venue. Alarming some customers who were near or potentially involved in the incident, are also allowed to re-enter the venue and the venue allows this in the full knowledge that the victim is still on site and being treated and that potentially an offender/offenders in this venue have weapons on

them. There is no active management in place from the venue or door staff to ensure that there is no further risk to the customers on site.

- 4) The offence takes place at a time when the venue is not full, it has 4 door staff on site and yet disorder still takes place resulting in a male being stabbed.
- 5) Whilst viewing the footage, officers see two males who they suspect are making an exchange of drugs.
- 6) The venue has a sign outside and advertises on its social media that 'No baseball caps, no tracksuits, no man bags and no hoods' yet the CCTV of the night in question shows that the venue does not follow its own admission policy as the majority of customers are wearing tracksuits, some have caps on, males are seen walking around the venue with hoods up and numerous males are wearing man bags'. Clearly the venue knows the risks of its customer base yet chooses to ignore this and allow entry anyway.

West Midlands Police remain concerned that the venue has had a number of incidents in 2022 which involve violence and disorder and this latest matter shows an escalation of incidents given the use of weapons within the venue and at a time when the venue is relatively quiet.

**Signature of applicant:**

**Date:** 19<sup>th</sup> May 2022

**Rank/Capacity:** Chief Superintendent

**Contact details for matters concerning this application:** Nicola Stansbie, Police Licensing Officer

**Address:** Licensing Department, West Bromwich Police Station, Moor St, West Bromwich, B70 7AQ,

**Telephone Number(s):**

**E-mail - :**

**Notes for guidance:**

1. A certificate of the kind mentioned in the form must accompany the application in order for it to be valid under the terms of the Licensing Act 2003. The certificate must explicitly

state the senior officer's opinion that the premises in question are associated with serious crime, serious disorder or both.

Serious crime is defined by reference to section 81 of the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000. In summary, it means:

- conduct that amounts to one or more criminal offences for which a person who has attained the age of eighteen and has no previous convictions could reasonably be expected to be sentenced to imprisonment for a term of three years or more; or
- conduct that amounts to one or more criminal offences and involves the use of violence, results in substantial financial gain or is conduct by a large number of persons in pursuit of a common purpose.

Serious Disorder is not defined in legislation, and so bears its ordinary English meaning.

2. Briefly describe the circumstances giving rise to the opinion that the above premises are associated with serious crime, serious disorder or both.

# **West Midlands Police**

## **CERTIFICATE UNDER SECTION 53A (1)(B) OF THE LICENSING ACT 2003**

I hereby certify that in my opinion the premises described below are associated with serious crime and disorder

**Premises: Seven Bar, 25 Lower High Street, Wednesbury, WS10 7AQ**

**Premise Licence Number: 007649**

**Premise Licence Holder: Harjinder Singh Bagri**

**Designated Premise Supervisor: Anuj Panwar**

**I am a Chief Superintendent in West Midlands Police.**

I am giving this certificate because I am of the opinion that the standard review procedures under the Licensing Act 2003 are inappropriate in this case due to the seriousness of the incident on site and the failings of the venue management and door staff.

The incident that has occurred is a serious crime and despite previous incidents on site, the venue continues to operate in a manner that is of concern.

The severity of the incident and the conduct of the venue is a matter that needs to be brought to the attention of the Licensing Committee immediately.

The concern of West Midlands Police is that if steps are not taken to address this matter and the conduct of the premises, further violence and incidents of this nature will continue. West Midlands Police are concerned that the premises style of operation, its customers base and the lack of control and pro-active management compromise the Crime and Disorder objective contained in the Licensing Act 2003.

I am conscious of the Home Office guidance on the use of "Expedited Reviews" and given the emphasis that is given to use of this power to tackle serious crime and disorder, my feelings that this process is deemed appropriate are further enforced.

Signed

Ian Green  
Chief Superintendent for Sandwell NPU

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## **Appendix 2**

### **Date of incident 24/04/22 Crime Number 20/433880/22 - Section 18 – Assault with intent to cause grievous bodily harm**

At approximately 02:09hours IP and friend have left Seven Bar and been approached by a group of unknown males and got into a fight. IP suffered a cut to the leg from a knife. IP and his friend reluctant engage or pursue matter.

### **Date of incident 01/04/22 – Section 18 – Assault with intent to cause grievous bodily harm**

IP was out drinking with friends in the rear beer garden of Seven Bar. The female offender known to the IP, was acting hostile towards her and the offender then lined up two glass bottles. Offender threw one bottle at IP which missed and then another was thrown at IP which hit her and caused a fractured eye socket, cut to forehead and a broken nose. IP delayed reporting incident as she admitted in retaliation she threw bottles and glasses at offender. Footage of this incident is available and will be shown to the Licensing Committee.

### **Date 26/02/22 at approx. 02:13hours Crime number 20/251984/22 – Common assault**

IP was heavily intoxicated and has been involved in a verbal altercation with two males outside the location, following the altercation the IP was chased by two offenders. The IP fell to the floor and was kicked by the offenders. Offence was witnessed by police officers parked nearby in a police van and were in area to target the increase in violence at this time and at location. Offenders detained. IP refused to engage with officers and was abusive to officers. The officers had to disperse a large crowd of people from the street who had left Seven Bar.

### **Date 23/01/22 at 02:16 hours**

Officers were called to Lower High street, Wednesbury after reports of assaults taking place in the street between multiple people following them leaving Seven Bar. Two intoxicated offenders were arguing with each other and shouting obscenities in the street, placing others in fear of violence and causing distress. The male was arrested for breach of the peace and further de-arrested at his home address

### **Date 23/01/22 at 02:00 hours – Crime Number 20/666547/21 - Wounding with intent to cause grievous bodily harm**

Officers have been called to a large disorder on Lower High Street, Wednesbury. Also present in this disorder was IP who presented with a sliced open thumb and his hand covered in blood. IP intoxicated and states had been in Seven Bar and states one of the females' present had took a packet of cigarettes out of his pocket. Whilst trying to find out who had taken the cigarettes and arguing with multiple people, something has been thrown at him and he put his hand up to protect his face and the item hit is hand and sliced open his thumb. IP adamant it was a knife despite seeing no knife. IP refused

ambulance despite intoxication was fully aware of the risks of not going to hospital and showed he had capacity to make decision. Male refused to leave the area and had to be arrested for breach of peace and taken to his home address as no taxi would take him due to intoxication and blood and removing him from area prevented further issues.

**Date of incident 22/01/22 Crime Number 20/134/6029/21 – Section 20 Assault involving grievous (or really serious) bodily harm**

Log came in at 00:13hours from Ambulance Service reporting an assault at the venue and they were en-route to incident. Officers on arrival found IP on back of ambulance being treated and assessed. IP had been drinking in Seven Bar when numerous males have approached the IP. The males have begun to repeatedly punch the IP to his face before then kicking him once he was on the ground. The IP has sustained a considerable swelling, bruising and cuts to the left eye/ cheek area of his face which was bleeding upon officers speaking to him. He also sustained minor bruising to his nose and other parts of his face.

**Date of incident 15/01/22 Crime Number 20/141170/22 – Section 18 – Assault with intent to cause grievous bodily harm**

Multiple calls to the Police, first at 02:08hours reporting large scale fight in Lower High Street outside of venue. Police then receive a further 4 logs reporting incident.

IP of this states they had been drinking Seven Bar when trouble started inside the venue between others and everyone ended up outside venue and IP was trying to diffuse situation when a car had pulled up and males begin fighting. IP was then set upon by approximately 15 males, some with weapons. IP sustained a broken jaw that required surgery. Footage from social media shows this disorder taking place and the scale of disorder in the street.

**Date of incident 25/12/21 at 01:55hours**

Reports of large disorder in street and someone has been run over. On attendance there is an IP who had his vehicle driven into. Various people detained for an affray. One of the offender's states when formally interviewed that they were in Seven Bar and they go regularly and know most people in there and there was a fight in there but this was nothing out of the ordinary as there is a fight in there every week.

**Date of incident 24/12/21 Crime Number 20/716234/21 – Common assault**

IP has been punched by an unknown male in the pub



**Date of incident 24/12/21 Crime number 20/1987841/21 – Section 47 Assault occasioning actual bodily harm**

IP states that at around 23:30hours she was in the bar whilst standing by the DJ stand when she became aware there was an altercation outside by the smoking area. IP states that without provocation a male, mid 20's has punched her in her face causing injury.

**Date of incident 05/12/21 Crime Number 20/469831/21 at 02:30hours**

Officers attended reports of a female being assaulted by a male on the High Street. Male arrested on suspicion of assault and he disclosed he had been assaulted earlier on in the evening in Seven Bar by unknown males.

**Date of incident 04/12/21 Crime Number 20/1933144/21 – Section 47 Assault occasioning actual bodily harm**

IP had been drinking in the venue when she was approached by a male she knew of and verbal argument took place and without warning the offender punched the IP to the face several times causing the victim to be knocked unconscious. The IP was taken by ambulance to Sandwell Hospital.

Multiple logs reported disorder in street and on attendance no disorder occurring and security at Severn Bar spoken to who stated that there had been no issues inside the pub, but believes the issues were that they emptied the premises at the same time as a neighbouring bar, MJ'S and the two groups had come together although he hadn't seen any fighting. Officer attended the hospital to speak to victim who confirms she had been drinking in Seven Bar and incident occurred inside the venue. Time of logs is 02:20hours

**Date of incident 22/11/21 – Crime number 20/1901738/21 criminal damage**

Officers attend the location to reports of an alarm going off inside the Premises. The caller who reports this states the window of the pub is smashed. Officers attend and speak to owner who states the window was smashed 3 weeks ago by customer of pub.

**Date of incident 19/11/21 – Assault**

Officers deployed to Police the night time economy venues and conduct checks of licensed venues, attend Seven Bar at 23:25hours and observe a male known to them with an injury to his face. The known male was shouting at a male and female and it appears there is ongoing disorder between the group. Officers remove the male from the venue to prevent matters escalating. Witnesses state IP was acting in a threatening manner to male and female and shouting abuse at them and so male offender punched IP to face.

**Date of incident 09/11/21 Crime Number 20/1883403/21 - Section 20 Assault involving grievous (or really serious) bodily harm**

IP attends venue and after earlier having a verbal altercation with offender in West Bromwich over a taxi. 30 minutes after the IP arrived at the venue, offender arrives at venue and punches IP twice to the face causing the IP to suffer a split lip.

**Date of incident 18/09/21 – Affray**

At 02:15 hours officers are deployed to High Street, Wednesbury following a report that there were 70 people fighting outside of Seven Bar.

On arrival at the location, officers have found a number of small groups of people clustered together across the High Street however it was clear that tensions were still high. Officers have then located a female who was heavily intoxicated who had visible injuries to her face including a number of small cuts to her forehead and bridge of her nose and also swelling and bruising to her left eye. Also present and even more intoxicated was the mother of this female. On speaking to them they highlighted a female who had just walked off as the person responsible for causing the injuries.

Officers have then located a female matching the description and she confirmed that she had been one of the females involved. She stated that both her and her friend had been in the toilet at Seven Bar when both other females proceeded to start an argument with one of her friends. Female has become involved and younger female has thrown a drink over both her and her friend. She stated that the mother of female has then become involved and has picked up a glass. Fight then ensued and female with injuries was punched.

**Date of incident 14/08/21 –** At 01:56 hours log reporting hit and run outside of Seven Bar. Further log received stating 'all kicking off'. On attendance adult male is conscious and breathing and car made off in another direction. Officers attending the incident are told that disorder happened at Seven Bar between IP and offender before the car was driven into IP outside venue.

Officers in attendance are told by door staff that the manager of Seven Bar instructed them to remove a person out of the pub due to reports of him having a hammer on his person. The door supervisor has removed the person but has not seen a hammer. This was crimed as possession of an offensive weapon.

**Date of incident 07/08/21 – Common assault**

Officers have been directed to a female, who has slapped another female in the venue, females are related. The offender has slapped IP to the face following an altercation. Offender has then turned back up after being ejected and has been shouting back in to the pub.

On arrival a very intoxicated female was being held up by bar staff (IP) and she would not engage with officers to the point she would not even tell officers her name.

**Date 31/07/21 Crime Number 20/599457/21 – Section 20 assault with injury/malicious wounding**

IP has been in Seven Bar drinking with friends and states he felt a smash and then a warm sensation to the back of his head. IP realised he had been glassed. IP was heavily intoxicated at time and when walking home his family call the Police and an ambulance and IP was conveyed to Walsall Hospital

IP unwilling to say who he was with in venue and unwilling to pursue matter

**Date 27/07/21 Crime Number 20/1477737/21- Robbery**

Unknown offenders have entered into a verbal altercation with IP at location - Seven Bar, Wednesbury. Offenders have discharged an unknown substance, described as 'Pepper Spray' hitting IP's face, causing IP to be temporarily disorientated. A piece of jewellery has been taken from around the IP'S neck – jewellery worth approximately £7,000. Offenders have made good their escape on foot from location. On viewing the footage, officers see incident and confirm offender is drinking in the venue most of the evening.

**Date 11/07/21 Crime Number 20/1333315/21 Attempted murder X 2**

A verbal altercation/fight broke out in Seven Bar and a male involved was ejected from the venue. At closing time, the two females leave the venue accompanied by a male and a car was driven at them by the male that had earlier been ejected from the venue. Car hits two young females. Offender has since been convicted. Offender is a 21 year old male.

**Date 04/07/21 Crime Number 20/1290354/21 – Assault Occasioning actual bodily harm**

IP has been in Seven Bar and has gone to the male toilets before leaving at the end of the night. As IP has entered the toilets, a male has "warned" him that there is "a mixed-race bloke throwing punches in the air". IP has gone to use the toilet when a male matching this description has come over to the IP and punched him in the face. IP states that this was completely unprovoked. Suspect knocked IP's glasses onto the floor and caused IP to stumble but not fall to the floor. IP went out of the toilets and told the bouncer what had happened and states that the bouncer said that the suspect had done similar before and he was trouble.

**Date 30/05/21 Crime Number 20/955819/21 - Section 18 – Assault/wounding with intent to cause grievous bodily harm**

Incident started inside the Seven Bar where IP tried to break up a fight where the IP's friend was attacked. As both males walked away to get into a taxi, the IP was called back thinking that the two known males were going to speak with him. As one spoke with the IP, the second male has smashed a hammer into the face of the IP breaking both sides of his jaw and the offenders have made good their escape.

**Date 30/05/21 Crime Number- 20/920430/21 Section 18 – Assault/wounding with intent to cause grievous bodily harm**

Call to Police at 01:04hours reporting disorder outside Seven Bar and 20 -30 people fighting. On arrival officers find disorder on side street near Severn Bar where a male was being assaulted and on seeing officers', others made off. IP located and onlookers state he was hit with a hammer and the male had a large lump to the left side of the head. Male refused ambulance and wanted to leave area. IP refusing to engage.

**Date 30/05/21 Crime Number – 20/920427/21 – Assault occasioning ABH**

Male punched to face in venue and sustained bruising to eye but refused to engage further.

**Date 17/04/21 Crime Number – 20/231252/21 Assault**

Officers on licensing checks have driven down Lower High Street and large fight was occurring in the street. Upon arrival bottles and missiles were being thrown across the street. Officers have separated the fight in which a male has made off immediately from officers. Upon talking to witnesses it appears that an altercation has started in Seven Bar and then has continued out on the street. Numerous people have been involved in an attempt to break up the fight and have suffered injuries from this.

CCTV from the venue shows approximately 8 males come to the front of the bar and the fight has then came outside and it can be seen that all male offenders have their hoods up.

Second victim in the above incident sustained a bite mark during incident. Crime number 20/266290/21 for second victim

Another victim was kicked to the head when trying to intervene, crime number 20/231250/21

**Date 08/02/20 Crime Number 20SW/35039C/20 – Grievous bodily harm**

IP found outside the venue on the floor with a laceration to his head. IP sustained a 2 – 3 inch curved laceration to head that required stitching. IP has no recollection. Witness who called Police states the IP was drinking in the pub and he went to the outside area. 2 young males threw a glass bottle at IP's head causing it to smash off his head and IP fall to floor. Offenders made their escape from venue and 4 males came outside and crowded around IP on floor and were laughing and making comments that the IP deserved what he got. On ambulance arrival they report 4 males matching the description were seen going back inside venue.

**Date 25/01/20 Crime Number 20SW/35039C/20 – Malicious wounding**

On arrival officers find IP sat on floor with cut to eyebrow and a swollen eye. IP extremely intoxicated. IP states he had been assaulted by bar staff in venue. On viewing the CCTV in the venue, it shows the IP trying to get in venue, door staff prevent him from entering due to his

level of intoxication and IP tries to push past door staff who then nudge him away. All of a sudden, a group of males come rushing out of venue and chase the IP a short distance down the road.



WITNESS STATEMENT

Criminal Procedure Rules, r 27.2; Criminal Justice Act 1967, s. 9; Magistrates' Courts Act 1980, s.5B

Crime No. [ ]

URN [ ]

Statement of

Age if under 18 Over 18 (if over 18 insert 'over 18')

Occupation Police Sergeant

This statement (consisting of page(s) each signed by me) is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false, or do not believe to be true.

Signature:

(witness)

Date 07/06/22

Tick if witness evidence is visually recorded [ ] (supply witness details on rear)

This statement is in relation to The Seven Bar, 25-26 LOWER HIGH STREET, WEDNESBURY. I have been the Neighbourhood Sergeant covering Wednesbury Town Centre for nearly a year now and in that time the venue has been a regular source of serious violence, disorder and anti-social behaviour.

My first meeting with the local MP : was to discuss the venue and in particular the serious incident on the 11 July 2021 where two young females were driven at and a male was charged with two counts of attempted murder. The suspect in this matter was found to have been under the influence of drink and drugs and was continuing an argument which had started inside the venue.

From that point I have been closely monitoring the pub and working with partners and local councillors to try and reduce the impact it causes on the wider community. I have conducted licencing checks at the venue as well as others in Sandwell and despite having the usual requirements of CCTV and door staff incidents of the most serious violence continue to occur regularly. From the footage I have seen of these incidents I have serious concerns that both management at the venue and the quality and organisation of the doorstaff is not actively working to promote the licencing objectives of preventing crime and disorder, promoting public safety and the prevention of public nuisance.

As the local police sergeant I am willing to work with the venue around its licencing commitments. But following a visit on 18 January 2022 I am not confident there is the desire to improve to the standards necessary to ensure the safety of the members of the public using the venue. This visit was prompted following another serious disorder in the street involving weapons which resulted in another serious assault to a male who had previously been drinking at the venue. The footage of this incident saw hundreds of people pushed out of the venue into a busy street by doorstaff where the fight erupted.

I have some body cam footage of our conversations on the 18 January where I make it very clear to the DPS the concern that the pub was causing me and risk involved in not actively changing their approach to

Signature

Signature witnessed by

03/2016

OFFICIAL – (when complete)

OFFICIAL – (when complete)

MG11

Crime No.

URN

Statement of

running the pub. Although the visit was arranged with the DPS, Simon BAGRI who described himself as the manager also attended bringing with him the head of security both of whom did the majority of the talking about the venue. At one point we made it very clear the potential outcomes, such as licencing reviews, which could occur should improvements not be made, which led to the security lead to imply that were they to look to alter their entry codes they would likely have no customers. He referred to MJs in particular. This is a pub locally which had previously had issues around violence but which has made considerable improvements to its running, changing its clientele which has led to me having no current concerns with the venue.

I left the meeting unclear as to who was in charge at the venue. There was a lack of transparency as to who would be leading any improvements, what roles each party played and who retained overall charge. This appears to be the case in the most recent incident where when I spoke with the DPS he appeared to want to delegate responsibility for managing the door and the clientele being allowed in to the door supervisors. The CCTV then shows door supervisors let in members of the public who breach each of their self imposed dress code conditions; no caps, no tracksuits, no hoods and no manbags.

Reviewing the venue since this most recent stabbing I found that 4 of the 16 CCTV cameras were not working, these included the toilet corridor and the outside cameras which were previously working earlier this year but which were not on covering the incident. It meant that the offence location was not covered by any cameras a situation which significantly reduces my ability to investigate the offence at hand.

Downloading the CCTV was also incredibly difficult with me having to bring a particular piece of equipment with me to allow me to download footage from their system. This piece of equipment I own solely for the purpose of obtaining cctv from the Seven Bar. The CCTV is set up in such a way as you have to have two people stretching at arms length to use it. CCTV which is not readily viewable and easily downloaded is not an aid to policing, however the pub can still be described as having cctv.

Reviewing the footage for the most recent incident and another from earlier in the year there is obvious and outright evidence of drug dealing in the venue, sometimes right under the noses of doorstaff who appear either uninteresed in proactivley managing the venue or willfully blind to the activity going on about them.

Under 25 violence is a priority for Sandwell and the West Midlands more generally. At this time the Seven Bar, whilst it is open and operating in the manner it has been since I have been in post, causes me considerable concern as a risk location for the most serious violence. I do not have confidence that members of the public are safe at the venue, I do not believe that it is being run with a focus on reducing crime and serious violence, and that with the long list of incidents which have been recorded at the venue they have the will or desire to make the changes necessary to keep people safe.

Signature .....

Signature witnessed by .....

03/2016

OFFICIAL – (when complete)