

**WITNESS STATEMENT**

Criminal Procedure Rules, r27.2; Criminal Justice Act 1967, s.9; Magistrates' Courts Act 1980, s.5b

Statement of: THORNE, OLIVER THOMAS SCOTT

Age if under 18: OVER 18 Occupation: FORENSIC SCIENTIST  
(if over 18 insert 'over 18') GRAPHOLOGIST

This statement (consisting of 7 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: O.THORNE Date: 23/12/2015

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

**Qualifications and Experience**

1. I, Oliver Thomas Scott THORNE, am a Forensic Scientist in the Questioned Documents Group at LGC Limited. I hold the degree of Bachelor of Science. I specialise in the scientific examination of questioned documents including the comparison and identification of handwriting and office printing, along with other miscellaneous examinations. I have been employed on these duties for twenty two years since 1989, and since that time I have examined many documents and associated items in both criminal and civil matters, and have given evidence in various courts on these matters on many occasions.

Laboratory References: LGC-152011 80-QDS-02, QD2015-51254

Metropolitan Police References: 15SC1000197333, LILFORD-LESBURY, 5115490/14

2. This statement is further to my previous statement dated 17/10/2015 regarding the same case and should be read in conjunction with it.

**Items Received**

3. From the information made available to me I can say that the following items were received by LGC on 03/12/2015 from the Metropolitan Police SC100:

Signature: O.THORNE Signature witnessed by:  
2010/11

one of the pads from RUJ/168. I do not find indented impressions of the writing of the suicide note IRS/2 directly on the pad from RUJ/168 so it is likely that this was written whilst not resting on the pad in RUJ/168 (i.e. if it was part of the pad, then after it was removed). A variety of slightly different possible, scenarios exist which could account for these findings but the exact detail of these do not alter my opinion that this evidence provides a conclusive link between the paper of the suicide note IRS/2 and one of the pads in RUJ/168. Given the forensic packaging of IRS/2 and RUJ/168 and taking into consideration the dates of seizure of the items this conclusive link between IRS/2 and RUJ/168 could only have occurred before IRS/2 was found.

#### Summary of Conclusions

##### 15. In my opinion:

- There is conclusive support for the proposition that someone other than Daniel WHITWORTH wrote the questioned suicide note IRS/2.
- The paper of the suicide note IRS/2 was resting on one of the pads in RUJ/168 when the same unknown writing(s) was made resting on both IRS/2 and RUJ/168
- There is a conclusive link between the paper of the suicide note IRS/2 and one of the pads in RUJ/168 and this link could only have occurred before IRS/2 was found.

#### Declaration

16. I understand that my duty is to the court, I have complied with that duty and will continue to do so.

17. A full record of the work done in this case is available for inspection at the Laboratory.

18. If I am required to attend to give evidence in court then I may produce a demonstration chart showing copy examples taken from the questioned and reference writings in order to demonstrate some of the reasons for my conclusions.

19. My conclusions are based on the results of my laboratory examination and the information made available to me at this time. If any aspects of the case should change, then I am prepared to review my conclusions in the light of such changes.

20. In expressing the evidential significance of my findings, I have used the following scale of opinions:

Signature: O.THORNE  
2010/11

Signature witnessed by: