

1st Statement of [REDACTED]

Made on behalf of SEV Licence Holder

Dated: 5 MAY 2023

Before Tower Hamlets Council's Licensing Committee

Sch. 3 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 (as amended)

**Tower Hamlets Council (as a Licensing
Authority)**

Applicant

and

NH License Ltd

SEV Licence Holder

**Witness Statement of [REDACTED] (DANIELLA)
(PERFORMER)**

1. My name is [REDACTED]. I am 47 years old, and my date of birth is [REDACTED]
2. I am a dancer. I dance under the name Daniella.
3. I work at The Nags Head in Whitechapel.
4. I have worked at The Nags Head since 2010. For over 13 years I have danced there, and I cannot speak highly enough of the venue, the management, and the other girls I work with.
5. I don't think people or councils really understand dancers or give us enough credit. I think they think we are stupid, but we're not.
6. The Nags Head is the only venue that I work at. Nowadays I only work Thursdays and Fridays and even then, only when I want to. I am completely free to do what I want and I live in a little village near Peterborough called Stamford. I travel a long way to work at The Nags Head and I think that shows how much I value it.
7. The Nags Head is a really safe and secure working environment, which is one of the reasons why I enjoy working there. We celebrated my 47th birthday [REDACTED] with a cake and everyone sung happy birthday to me.

8. In all of the years that I have worked at The Nags Head I have never been put in a position where I felt compromised or unsafe. On the odd occasion that a customer has tried to touch me they have been stopped and reprimanded by staff or security. If they talk back, they're out. It is as simple as that.
9. The girls really look after one another. As far as a collection of dancers can be, we are a team and we look out for one another. The management look out for us too, as do the security.
10. The rules are what they are. We don't like them, but we stick to them because we know that we have to. We are told every single day what we can and can't do. The rules are up on the wall and we all have them by email and by WhatsApp.
11. The girls that have caused this situation have let us all down. They've put my livelihood in jeopardy as well as the livelihood of all of the other girls, staff etc. I am really annoyed at them for doing that.
12. Things have just started to get back to normal again after Covid and we are starting to see more customers through the door.
13. That meant new girls coming in and working. When you have worked there as long as me you know that it can take new girls a few months to adjust when they join. Perhaps the rules are different where they have worked previously. Perhaps it was a different environment – more of a club vibe.
14. Girls either work to the rules set for us by the council or they don't, and they are gone quite quickly.
15. I think Beatrice had only been at the club something like a month or so? I had only seen her two, maybe three times. I've never seen her against since and I know she was told not to come back. Good.
16. I don't like the council sending in undercover officers and asking them to try and touch us to see how we respond. That makes me feel cheap and like some kind of criminal. I don't see why the council need to do that anyway, surely, they can just come and look at the cameras. Everything is recorded. The only place I am off camera is on the toilet!
17. I know the council would probably prefer if we didn't exist but there is a market for us. Despite the availability of porn on the internet, Only Fans etc. people still come to the Nags Head to have a drink and a dance. Sometimes people come just to chat and that is fine too.
18. I cannot stress enough that I think it would be a real shame if the licence was taken away. Three girls caused problems. Three girls were asked never to come back and the kind of thing that happened to cause this just doesn't happen otherwise.

19. I will be really sad and disappointed if The Nags Head is closed down. I won't be the only one either.

I believe that the facts stated in this witness statement are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

[REDACTED]

Signed:

[REDACTED] (DANIELLA)

Date: 05/05/23

For the attention of the Councillors

Re: Nags Head Stripclub

7 May 2023

Dear Councillors,

My name is [REDACTED] and I am one of the dancers at The Nags Head in Whitechapel.

I have worked at The Nags Head since I was 19 years old. I have been there 18 years. I love it.

I started dancing to pay for university. I enjoyed it so much that I ended up making a career of it.

I only work at The Nags Head. It is the only place that I want to work. I get on well with everyone else and we, the other girls and me, feel like part of the family.

Over the years I have seen lots of girls come and go. Some have stayed for a long time and others not so long. The girls that have come and gone quickly have tended to leave because they have not been able to follow the rules. Perhaps The Nags Head is not like the other places they have worked and the rules are too strict.

You cannot dance at Nags Head and not know what the rules are. They are on the wall, you sign them, and they are told to you every single day that you go to work. I could probably recite the rules to you off the top of my head.

You might think that all of the power in a club is with the owner or with the customers. It doesn't. We, the dancers, are the ones with all the control. If a customer behaves in a way that I do not like, then I can call security and have him removed. We are monitored by the managers, by the bar staff and by camera.

I feel completely comfortable and safe in what I do. The Nags Head is a really nice place to work.

I know what happened with [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. They had not long joined and were eager to make as much money as possible. They thought the best way to do that was to misbehave, but it isn't. The bosses are really strict with us about touching customers or customers touching us. Sometimes it happens and we have to call security, but that is like once every 5 or 6 months for me anyway. For the most part I do my dances, make my money, and have a good time. I feel really safe at work.

I am really worried that if you close The Nags Head down, I will have to go and work somewhere else. I don't want that. I really like The Nags Head. They have supported me

through 18 years of my life, through good times and not so good times. I came back to the UK after Covid because I knew that I would be looked after.

It would be a huge mistake to ruin a business and my business because of some stupid girl's mistakes.

I can't come to the hearing, but if I was there, I would tell you all this in person.

Please don't take the licence away.

Yours,

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A black rectangular redaction box covering the name area.

Tower Hamlets Licensing
Tower Hamlets Town Hall
160 Whitechapel Road
London E1 1BJ

Dear Licensing,

The Nags Head – SEV Revocation

My name is [REDACTED]

I am 39 years old from Brazil and I am a dancer at Nags Head.

I perform as TATI!

I have been told that the council want to take away the club's licence. Why is that?

I have been working at Nags Head for over 6 years. I love it there.

I work with lots of girls who are my friends, and the manager supports me. I work every Thursday – Friday.

I have worked at other clubs and believe me Nags is a much safer environment for me and the other girls. We are really well looked after. Like princesses.

If a customer touches us, we stop the dance.

If a customer does it again, they get thrown out.

It is very difficult to dance for someone without touching them by accident.

I hear that some dancers go too far and allow customers touch, touch customers. Please don't let them spoil it for the rest of us.

Dancing is my livelihood. It is all I do. I know that if Nags goes, I will be able to work somewhere else, but I don't want to work somewhere else. I want to work at Nags!

Please do the right thing. Please.

Respectfully,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

TATI