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COURT LETTER
URGENT



To: The Court Manager

Highbury & Islington Magistrates'

Court Date: 1 July 2026

Magistrates' / youth court case reference number: 01YE1267925

Defendant: Simon Cordell

Subject: Urgent Notice Regarding Appeal Deadline and Denial of Legal Representation

I am writing to formally notify the court that I am currently unable to secure legal representation for the purpose of filing my appeal within the statutory 21-day / 15-working-day deadline.

My mother passed away on **08 April 2026**, and her funeral took place on **29 May 2026**. For several weeks prior to the hearing, I repeatedly informed the court that I would not be able to participate in a trial on the date of my mother's funeral. My requests for a court hearing and an adjournment were denied.

On **29 May 2026**, the judge proceeded with the first part of the trial and required the alleged victim to give evidence on the same day as my mother's funeral. I had no legal representation, no disclosure, and no defence files. I was not permitted to challenge or question the evidence.

A Section 36 solicitor was appointed on the spot, but even when they acted for me, they were unable to act for me because my defence files and time need to prepare was not available — For an instance: I had served and prepared my defence files correctly as a

litigant in person — but they were wiped from the common platform. Prior to the Court hearings and trial. I had served my defence files multiple times to the court, the CPS, and to the previously appointed Section 36 solicitors. Each service was completed correctly, within the required timeframes, and I kept recorded proof of submission. Despite this, my defence files were repeatedly and wrongly removed or wiped from the common platform.

As a result, the Section 36 solicitor appointed on **12 June 2026** had never seen my defence materials and had only a brief 15-minute conversation with me immediately before the hearing. He was unprepared as he missed the 10 months prior and was unable to act on my behalf fairly due to these issues raised. I was therefore forced to proceed without proper representation, without access to my own defence files, and without the ability to question the alleged victim or present my case. I was not permitted to speak unless spoken to, and I was ultimately found guilty under these conditions.

The judge then split the trial, requiring me to give my evidence on **12 June 2026**. On that date, I was again without any legal representation. I requested a solicitor there and then, directly to the judge, but she denied me this legal right and continued by blaming me for not obtaining a new solicitor since 29 May 2026 — despite my bereavement and despite the fact that I had already signed legal aid forms with Mc Lartey's after Elliott Stern and Tuckers Solicitors had also been involved.

I was denied access to my defence files as a litigant in person. I asked again if I could obtain a solicitor, and this request was refused.

Throughout the proceedings, I was not allowed to speak unless spoken to, and I was effectively forced to act as a litigant in person without disclosure, without preparation, and without legal advice. I was unable to question the alleged victim or present my defence. I was found guilty under these circumstances, and a restraining order was imposed which placed me at risk of further allegations or reprisals. I am extremely concerned about my safety and the fairness of the process, as I am the victim in this matter.

Since the trial, I have contacted multiple solicitors and legal aid providers. All have confirmed they do not have capacity to act on my behalf. As a result, I am now at risk of missing the appeal deadline **through no fault of my own**.

I am attending court in person today to ensure the court is aware of these circumstances and to request that my appeal rights are preserved. I respectfully ask the court to record this letter on my case file and confirm that my intention to appeal has been formally noted.

I will submit the full appeal documentation as soon as I am able to secure legal assistance or complete the paperwork myself.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.

Signed: Simon Cordell

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