

VIDEO D TRANSCRIPT

PAULA SWIFT: OK, Bill, good to see you again. How's everything?

BILL: Alright I s'pose.

PAULA SWIFT: Good, OK. Look, the reason I asked you to come in today is that I've got all the evidence now from the prosecution. (*pause*) I've got to tell you the case against you is quite strong.

BILL (*suddenly animated*): Yeah, those bastards have got it in for me. It's a stitch-up job.

PAULA SWIFT: Maybe so, but let me summarise the evidence for you.

BILL: Alright. Go on then.

PAULA SWIFT: Well, the case against you is as follows. You were at the Mason's Arms on Tuesday 16 May from around 6pm onwards, had a few drinks, got talking to a few people and ended up quite drunk. Then towards midnight you got into an argument with the barman. Is that right so far?

BILL: Yeah, the little twerp refused to serve me. Said I'd had too much to drink already. Stuck-up little...

PAULA SWIFT (*quickly*): That's right. Anyway, the upshot was he asked you to leave, and you did so. This was around 12.30. Agreed?

BILL: Yeah, probably around then.

PAULA SWIFT: OK, and a number of people who were in the bar have given statements saying they saw you leave around then.

BILL: Yeah, whatever.

PAULA SWIFT: And about two minutes later the windows at the back of the pub got smashed in.

BILL: Nothing to do with me.

PAULA SWIFT: I hear what you're saying Bill, but let me just finish. There was a couple who were sitting in a car in the pub car park who've given a statement saying they saw you walk over to a red Volkswagen Golf, open up the boot, take out a baseball bat and walk back towards the pub. The police note that car is registered in your name.

BILL (*aggressively*): So what? That's not evidence I did it.

PAULA SWIFT (*takes deep breath*): Well, Bill. It's like this. Unless we can show a real possibility that someone else had a reason to smash those windows, was right there to do it, and had a weapon to do it, I can almost guarantee that pretty much whatever arguments we use on your behalf a jury is going to convict you, given the weight of evidence that suggests you must have done it.

BILL (*muttering*): I ain't done nothing... bastar...

PAULA SWIFT: (*interrupting quickly*) Now obviously if you're telling me that you really didn't do it, then of course we'll give the prosecutor the best run for his money we can manage. On the other hand, if you plead guilty at an early stage, you'll get a fair bit of credit for that from the judge and your sentence will be a fair bit lighter than if we fight it and lose.

BILL (*bitterly*): See what I mean? They're all against me.