Man used cloned licences to work as hospital security during pandemic

Press release

On Friday 4 November 2022, Bolton man Olarotimi Ojugbele was handed a 26-week jail sentence, suspended for 18 months by Willesden Magistrates' Court, plus a 15-day Rehabilitation Activity Requirement to be completed within 12 months. He was also ordered to pay a £128 victim surcharge.



Friday's sentence follows Ojugbele's guilty plea to fraud on Thursday 29 September.

This prosecution follows an investigation by the Security Industry Authority (SIA). A routine inspection by the in-house security manager of a Manchester city centre public hospital in 2020 identified multiple cases of cloned SIA licences. This meant that a number of unlicensed people were working as security staff at the hospital during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The hospital's security manager referred a cloned licence to the SIA along with incriminating email messages. The SIA's criminal investigation team identified Olarotimi Ojugbele at an address in Bolton as the holder of a cloned licence.

The SIA invited Ojugbele to an interview-under-caution on 22 September 2021. Ojugbele attended the interview and he made a full admission to SIA investigators that he used two cloned SIA licences. He said that he worked for two SIA approved contractors on at least 70 occasions between 8 October 2020 and 31 March 2021. The SIA is actively investigating Ojugbele's employers.

Ojugbele had no right to work in the UK. He was arrested by Home Office immigration officials in October 2021 and he was detained at a Middlesex immigration centre.

Nicola Bolton, one of the SIA's criminal investigation managers, said:

Mr Ojugbele was prosecuted for using someone else's SIA licence, enabling him to work illegally on 70 occasions as a security operative in a hospital. The licensing regime is there to protect the public. This is particularly important in an establishment such as a hospital where people can be at their most vulnerable. I would like to thank the hospital's security who have been instrumental in this prosecution.

A cloned licence is a licence that is a copy of a genuine licence. The SIA is reminding employers to check carefully for cloned licences using ultra-violet light technology.

Notes to editors:

- By law, security operatives working under contract must hold and display a valid SIA licence
- Read about SIA enforcement and penalties
- The offence listed above under the Fraud Act 2006 is: section 2 fraud by false representation
- The SIA licence features several easy-to-check security features, which include:
 - on the front of the licence you should be able to see holograms when the licence is tilted backwards and forwards
 - the expiry date of the licence is embossed on the bottom of the photograph (not printed on) — you should be able to run your finger over the date and feel that it is raised
 - on the back of the licence there is a QR code and a bar code. The bar code should bring up the same licence number as shown on the licence
 - a UV light should reveal 'SIA' in the top right and bottom left of the licence when scanned across the front. On older licences there will be a watermark pattern on the back of the licence that can only be revealed by the UV
 - the address on the rear of the licence should show an 'E' post code

Further information:

- The Security Industry Authority is the organisation responsible for regulating the private security industry in the United Kingdom, reporting to the Home Secretary under the terms of the <u>Private Security Industry Act 2001</u>. The SIA's main duties are the compulsory licensing of individuals undertaking designated activities and managing the voluntary Approved Contractor Scheme.
- For further information about the Security Industry Authority or to sign up for email updates visit: www.gov.uk/sia. The SIA is also on LinkedIn Eacebook (Security Industry Authority) and Twitter (@SIAuk).

<u>Barclays customers to receive up to</u> £1m for PPI breaches

The CMA has <u>written publicly</u> to Barclays after the bank failed to send a reminder to customers of payment protection insurance (PPI) policies.

Under the Competition and Markets Authority's (CMA) <u>PPI order</u>, PPI providers must send annual reminders to customers that set out clearly the cost of their policy, the type of cover they have and remind them of their right to cancel. Barclays breached the order by failing to send reminders to up to 1,306 of its former Mortgage Payment Protection Insurance policy holders between 2014 and 2017.

These customers, who held both a mortgage and an associated PPI policy with Barclays, had moved house and notified Barclays of their new address. Barclays failed to act properly on this information, with affected customers not receiving reminders.

Barclays only discovered this breach in late 2021. Failure to provide these reminders meant that customers may have kept their policies for longer than they needed or stopped checking for cheaper or better alternatives, and this may have cost them money.

The payout, of up to £1m is made up of refunds and goodwill payments, and comes after Barclays reported the breach to the CMA in October 2021, which it is required to do under the PPI order.

Adam Land, Senior Director of Remedies, Business and Financial Analysis at the CMA, said:

Barclays will pay customers up to £1 million after breaching the CMA's PPI Order. That's an average payment of around £750 per customer, which is particularly important as the cost-of-living crisis bites. We will now work with Barclays to ensure these payments are made to customers.

It's important that all PPI providers take notice — we won't hesitate to take action, as we have done here, if customers have lost out.

The CMA cannot currently impose financial penalties on businesses for breaches of this kind but has called for the power to do so.

Imposing fines would allow the CMA to take quicker and stronger action against companies that break the law. It would also allow the CMA to increase the deterrent effect of its enforcement and help ensure businesses take the

obligations which the CMA imposes on them seriously for the benefit of UK consumers.

- 1. This is not the first time Barclays has breached the order. Find out more about previous breaches and the CMA's enforcement here
- 2. We refer to 'up to' 1,306 customers because Barclays is still investigating the breach and may find that a small number of these 1,306 customers have in fact received the information they should have done.
- 3. The CMA does not currently have the power to impose financial penalties for breaches of this kind. The CMA has called for such powers in order to increase incentives for businesses to comply with market and merger remedies. The Government is set to consult on whether the CMA will be given such powers.
- 4. The CMA's <u>public letter</u> to Barclays ensures that the bank will contact all customers with a PPI policy, who were affected by the most recent breach, and make payouts to compensate for the missing reminders
- 5. These breaches will also be logged on the <u>CMA's register of breaches</u>, which records all breaches of market and merger remedies and is updated quarterly with the next update being January.
- 6. For media enquiries, contact the CMA press office on 020 3738 6460 or press@cma.gov.uk

10-year ban for Plymouth print boss on top of 5-year bankruptcy restrictions

Simon Paul Inglis King, 65, from Plymouth, has been disqualified as a company director for 10 years after an investigation found he had claimed two Bounce Back Loans for his business totalling £80,000 — an amount of £30,000 more than the maximum allowed by the scheme.

His ban comes on top of an existing 5-year bankruptcy restriction, also for Bounce Back Loan abuse.

Simon King was the director of Blackfriars Contracts Ltd, which was incorporated in 2012 and ran as a printers in Plymouth until the company went into liquidation in December 2020. The business had been part of a long-

running family printing operation in Plymouth, referred to as a "hidden treasure" in the city's business world.

At the point of liquidation, the company had debts of more than £230,000. King later had a bankruptcy order made against him personally in July 2021, owing more than £100,000 and leading to bankruptcy restrictions of 5 years when it was found that he had abused another Bounce Back Loan.

In that instance, he had exaggerated his income as a sole trader in another business, Blackfriars Contracts Division, to claim a £50,000 loan to which he hadn't been entitled.

King's repeat abuse of the scheme came to light through an audit of Blackfriars Contracts Ltd, which uncovered records of the separate Bounce Back Loans, and triggered an investigation into his conduct as the firm's director.

Insolvency Service investigators discovered that King had applied for a £50,000 Bounce Back Loan for Blackfriars Contracts Ltd, and once the company had received it he applied again for another loan for the business — this time of £30,000 — which had been paid into a different bank account belonging to the company.

Under the rules of the Bounce Back Loan scheme, which was set up to support companies through the pandemic, businesses could apply for loans of up to 25% of their previous year's turnover, up to a maximum of £50,000. Businesses were not allowed to apply for an additional loan unless they had originally borrowed less than the maximum amount.

The £80,000 of BBL money was outstanding when the company closed in December that year, as part of around £230,000 owed to creditors.

The Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy accepted a disqualification undertaking from Simon King after he didn't dispute that he'd breached the conditions of the Bounce Back Loan Scheme by applying for two separate loans totalling £80,000

His disqualification is effective from 7 November 2022 and lasts for 10 years.

The disqualification undertaking prevents King from directly, or indirectly, becoming involved in the promotion, formation or management of a company, without the permission of the court.

Martin Gitner, Deputy Head of Insolvent Investigations at the Insolvency Service, said:

Bounce back loans were introduced to help viable businesses through an extremely difficult period, providing them with the financial support during the pandemic to protect jobs and return to prosperity. The conduct of Simon Paul Inglis King fell extremely short of the standards required of company directors and he has been removed from the corporate arena for a significant amount of time. His ban should serve as a clear warning that if you abuse Government support schemes you should expect to be caught and punished.

Simon King is of Plymouth. His date of birth is February 1957

Simon King initially signed and received a 5-year Bankruptcy Restrictions Undertaking for similar misconduct in relation to his bankruptcy pertaining to the fact that he obtained a Bounce Back Loan as a sole trader after overstating his turnover.

Blackfriars Contracts Ltd (Company Reg no. 08276301)

Disqualification undertakings are the administrative equivalent of a disqualification order but do not involve court proceedings.

Persons subject to a disqualification order are bound by a <u>range of</u> restrictions.

<u>Further information about the work of the Insolvency Service, and how to complain about financial misconduct.</u>

You can also follow the Insolvency Service on:

<u>Skills Bootcamps will help plug skills</u> <u>gaps, but improvements are needed</u>

Ofsted's survey found that, while learners value the opportunity to develop their skills and knowledge on Skills Bootcamps, there are a number of areas that need to improve.

Skills Bootcamp courses run for up to 16 weeks and form part of the government's commitment to helping adults learn the necessary knowledge and skills for new jobs in expanding sectors, such as digital, engineering, construction, manufacturing and green technologies.

Ofsted's report finds that, overall, leaders have developed a wide range of digital and technical Skills Bootcamps to help people move into sectors where there are skills shortages. In most cases, they are responsive to meeting employers' skill needs.

Most providers organised the curriculum appropriately and used learning resources and materials of a high quality. They included opportunities for learners to develop their personal and professional behaviours and gain a

range of skills, in addition to learning the vocational content of the course.

However, we found that the quality of teaching was not consistently high and assessment practice was often weak. Too many providers did not carry out rigorous initial assessments, meaning leaders and managers cannot fully or accurately measure learners' progress.

Among the other concerns identified, there were a minority of providers that were planning courses that do not allow learners enough time or opportunity to master skills or develop their understanding to a suitable level. Some leaders had not made sure that each learner was guaranteed a job interview. At a few providers, the overall purpose of the programmes was unclear.

Today's report was commissioned by the Department for Education (DfE) to help understand how well Skills Bootcamps are delivering a good-quality education. The report draws on findings from visits to 14 providers that were delivering the accelerated skills programme. The survey visits took place between January 2022 and March 2022.

We have agreed with the DfE to inspect Skills Bootcamps as part of our regular inspection of further education and skills providers, from April 2023.

His Majesty's Chief Inspector, Amanda Spielman, said:

These courses provide good opportunities for adults to learn new skills in sectors vital to our economy, but it is important that all courses are of high quality and that they lead to jobs.

I welcome the DfE's agreement for Ofsted to inspect Skills Bootcamps as part of our regular inspections. This will support the government's approach to tackling skills shortages in England by ensuring that learners and employers benefit from well-planned and effective programmes.

Prime Minister announces crucial winter kit delivery for Ukrainian Forces as he meets NATO Chief

- The Prime Minister will welcome the NATO Secretary General, Jens Stoltenberg, to Downing Street today
- Ahead of the UK's Integrated Review refresh, the visit will cement the UK's ongoing support for NATO and discuss how the alliance can evolve to

meet continued and new threats

• It comes as the Prime Minister announces the UK will send a further 12,000 extreme cold weather sleeping kits and 150 heated tents to help the Armed Forces of Ukraine as the temperatures plummet in the country

Prime Minister Rishi Sunak will host the NATO Secretary General in Downing Street today (Wednesday) to discuss the future of security and deterrence in the Euro-Atlantic area.

Jens Stoltenberg will be the first international leader the Prime Minister has hosted at 10 Downing Street since he took office last month.

The leaders are expected to discuss the ongoing war in Ukraine and how best allies can support their courageous defence. They will also look to the future of the NATO alliance and how we can ensure it is fighting fit for generations to come.

The meeting will be an opportunity for to discuss the UK's ongoing update to the Integrated Review. The update builds on the strategy published last year which highlighted NATO's central role in the UK's defence. The UK is the largest European contributor to NATO, and has committed both our aircraft carrier and our nuclear capability to the alliance.

Ahead of the visit, the Prime Minister has announced the UK will provide a package of winter kit to the Ukrainian Armed Forces to assist as they defend their country in gruelling winter conditions. NATO allies have been at the forefront of global support for Ukraine, after Russia's invasion permanently shifted the dial on both Euro-Atlantic security and global relations.

Prime Minister Rishi Sunak said:

NATO is the cornerstone of our security, and the security of our allies. As the war in Ukraine continues to rage, we must not take peace at home for granted.

I am determined the UK will be the bedrock of NATO for generations to come. But in order to face the challenges future we must evolve as an Alliance to meet, and remain ahead of, the threat from our adversaries.

We must also continue backing the Ukrainian people in their resistance to Putin's brutality. I'm pleased that UK-donated kit will be keeping the Ukrainian Armed Forces warm and safe as they face a perilous winter fighting for their country.

The Secretary General will arrive at Downing Street after visiting Ukrainian troops at Lydd Army Camp as part of Operation Interflex — the training programme for the Ukrainian Armed Forces pioneered by the UK. The recruits are being put through their paces by UK military trainers, ensuring they are front-line-ready as the Armed Forces of Ukraine continue to push back Russian

invaders.

The Secretary General's visit comes as the Prime Minister announces that the UK will send a further 12,000 sleeping kits and 150 heated tents to help Ukrainian troops fight through the winter.

The UK is set to deliver more than 25,000 sets of extreme cold weather clothing by mid-December, ensuring troops are able to operate and survive the plunging temperatures in Ukraine.

The extreme cold weather kits are in addition to more than 7,000 sets of normal cold weather kit distributed to recruits on Operation Interflex.

Defence Secretary Ben Wallace said:

With winter fast approaching, this equipment will ensure that the Armed Forces of Ukraine are able to operate effectively through the next few months. Alongside our training programme and the provision of lethal aid, it demonstrates our commitment to making sure that the basic Ukrainian soldier is well trained, well equipped and given the best possible chance to fight and determine their own future.