

DOCUMENT 1 OF 4

FORMAL COMPLAINT — ADVANCE NOTICE, INTERNAL COMMUNICATION AND ADMINISTRATIVE FAILURE

Our Reference: DEL/WGCC/COMPLAINT/01/2026-08-26

Case Reference: 01GD1160226

Date: 26 August 2026

FROM

Derrick Lynch (also known as John Canoe)

23 Jersey House

2 Eastfield Road

Enfield

EN3 5UY

United Kingdom

Email: Derrick_Lynch@hotmail.co.uk

Email: thereparationnation@gmail.com

TO

Court Manager / Complaints Manager

Wood Green Crown Court

Woodall House

Lordship Lane

Wood Green

London

N22 5LF

United Kingdom

Email: woodgreencrowncourt@justice.gov.uk

SUBJECT

**FORMAL COMPLAINT — FAILURE TO ACT EFFECTIVELY UPON ADVANCE NOTICE
CONCERNING RELIGIOUS ARTICLES — ATTENDANCE ON 26 AUGUST 2026**

Dear Sir/Madam,

I submit this as **Document 1 of four separate but related formal complaints** arising from my attendance at Wood Green Crown Court on **26 August 2026**.

This document is deliberately confined to the issue of **advance notification, receipt and handling of documentation, internal communication and the apparent administrative failure which resulted in confusion when I arrived at the court.**

The separate substantive issues concerning:

1. the requirement that I remove my religious wrist/arm cuff;
2. my concerns concerning possible discriminatory treatment and safeguards relating to race and religion; and
3. the apparent mishandling and retention of my stamped documentary evidence,

are addressed separately so that each matter can be investigated and answered distinctly.

1. PURPOSE OF THIS COMPLAINT

The purpose of this complaint is to establish, as a matter of fact:

1. what happened to the advance notice that I provided to Wood Green Crown Court;
2. how that notice was recorded;
3. whether it was forwarded to Court Security;
4. who received and/or considered it;
5. what action was taken upon it;
6. what information was available to security staff before my arrival on 26 August 2026;
7. why confusion nevertheless arose when I attended;
8. whether there was a failure of internal communication or administration; and
9. what measures will now be taken to prevent a repetition.

I require factual answers rather than general assurances.

2. ADVANCE NOTICE PROVIDED TO WOOD GREEN CROWN COURT

On **5 August 2026**, I prepared written advance notice addressed to:

Court Security Manager
Wood Green Crown Court

Lordship Lane
Wood Green
London
N22 5LF

The subject of that document was:

“URGENT – Advance Notice for Hearing on 26 August 2026 – Religious Articles – Please Forward to Court Security and Relevant Staff.”

The document expressly notified the Court that I would attend Wood Green Crown Court on **26 August 2026** wearing religious articles on my arm and hand as part of my **VooDoo religious observance**.

The articles were expressly described as including:

- a metal wrist/arm cuff;
- a short chain; and
- a small combination padlock.

A photograph of the articles was incorporated into the notice so that there could be no reasonable uncertainty about their physical appearance.

3. EVIDENCE OF RECEIPT BY WOOD GREEN CROWN COURT

The documentary evidence in my possession establishes that Wood Green Crown Court received the notice.

The document bears an official circular stamp stating:

WOOD GREEN CROWN COURT
RECEIVED
06 AUG 2026

Accordingly, this is not a situation in which the Court can reasonably say that no advance notification was provided.

The notice was prepared on 5 August 2026 and bears evidence of receipt by Wood Green Crown Court on **6 August 2026**, approximately twenty days before my attendance on **26 August 2026**.

The Court therefore had substantial advance notice.

4. PURPOSE OF PROVIDING ADVANCE NOTICE

The purpose of providing advance notification was specifically to prevent:

- misunderstanding;
- unnecessary confrontation;
- delay;
- confusion;
- disagreement at the security entrance; and
- disruption to my attendance at court.

I had previously provided advance notifications concerning the same religious articles in connection with attendance at other courts.

I therefore took positive steps to ensure that Wood Green Crown Court knew in advance:

1. that I would be attending;
2. the date upon which I would be attending;
3. that I would be wearing religious articles;
4. the religious character of those articles;
5. exactly what those articles consisted of; and
6. what those articles looked like.

There was therefore an opportunity for any security issue to be considered **before I arrived at the court.**

5. ATTENDANCE ON 26 AUGUST 2026

I attended Wood Green Crown Court on **26 August 2026.**

Notwithstanding the advance notification and the Court's receipt of the relevant documentation, there was confusion concerning the religious articles and the paperwork.

It became apparent to me that the advance-notification procedure had not operated effectively.

I had provided the documentation specifically so that the relevant security personnel could be informed in advance.

The fact that confusion nevertheless occurred requires an explanation.

6. PREVIOUS COURT EXPERIENCE

My concern is reinforced by the fact that this was not the first occasion upon which I had provided notice concerning these religious articles.

I had previously dealt with security arrangements concerning the same religious articles at:

Westminster Magistrates' Court

181 Marylebone Road

London

NW1 5BR

United Kingdom

and at:

Thames Magistrates' Court

58 Bow Road

London

E3 4DJ

United Kingdom.

Documents relating to my previous notifications bear court receipt stamps.

The existence of that documentary history was relevant to my attempt to explain the position to Wood Green Crown Court Security.

The substantive question concerning the different security treatment at Wood Green Crown Court is reserved for **Document 2**.

For the purposes of this complaint, the relevant point is simply that the issue was foreseeable and I had deliberately given Wood Green Crown Court advance written notice.

7. APPARENT INTERNAL COMMUNICATION FAILURE

I therefore require Wood Green Crown Court to establish what occurred internally between:

6 August 2026, when the Court received the advance notice,

and

26 August 2026, when I attended the Court.

This is a period of approximately twenty days.

The Court should be capable of establishing whether the document was:

- scanned;
- placed on a court file;
- placed on an electronic record;
- forwarded by email;
- physically transferred;
- sent to Court Security;
- sent to a security contractor;
- considered by a Court Security Manager;
- considered by another HMCTS officer; or
- otherwise processed.

If the document was not passed to the relevant security personnel, I require an explanation of why not.

If it **was** passed to the relevant security personnel, I require an explanation of why the confusion nevertheless occurred.

8. QUESTIONS REQUIRING SPECIFIC ANSWERS

Please answer each of the following questions separately.

Question 1

On what date and at what time was my advance notice received by Wood Green Crown Court?

Question 2

What record was created when the document was received?

Question 3

Was the document scanned or otherwise electronically recorded?

Question 4

Was the document associated with **Case Reference 01GD1160226**?

Question 5

To which department, officer, manager or contractor was the document forwarded?

Question 6

Was the document specifically forwarded to Court Security?

Question 7

If yes, on what date was it forwarded?

Question 8

Who was responsible for ensuring that the relevant security personnel were informed before my attendance on 26 August 2026?

Question 9

Were the security personnel working at the entrance on 26 August 2026 informed in advance about my religious articles?

Question 10

If they were informed, what information were they given?

Question 11

If they were not informed, why were they not informed?

Question 12

Was any decision concerning the religious articles made before I arrived at the Court?

Question 13

If so, who made that decision and what was communicated to Court Security?

Question 14

Was there any written security instruction, briefing, email, note, incident record or other communication concerning my anticipated attendance?

Question 15

Why did confusion arise on 26 August 2026 despite the Court having received advance written notification on 6 August 2026?

9. PRESERVATION OF RECORDS

Because a formal complaint has now arisen, I request the immediate preservation of records relevant to the matters described above.

This request includes, insofar as such material exists:

- the advance notice received on 6 August 2026;
- scanned copies of the notice;
- electronic case-management entries;
- emails concerning the notice;
- internal messages;
- Court Security communications;
- security-contractor communications;
- entrance/security records;
- incident reports;
- staff notes;
- supervisor notes;
- records identifying which security personnel were on duty;
- records showing how my documents were handled;
- relevant CCTV covering my arrival and interaction with Court Security on 26 August 2026; and
- any other contemporaneous record concerning the incident.

This is a **preservation request**. I ask that potentially relevant material is not routinely deleted, overwritten or destroyed while these complaints remain outstanding.

10. NO CONCLUSION AS TO CAUSE OR MOTIVE

For avoidance of doubt, this document concerns an apparent **administrative and internal communication failure**.

At this stage I make **no allegation, accusation, assumption, assertion or conclusion** as to why the failure occurred.

I am seeking the underlying facts.

Separate concerns concerning the treatment of my religious observance and possible discriminatory treatment are deliberately addressed elsewhere.

The purpose of separating the complaints is to prevent the factual administrative question from becoming confused with the other issues.

11. OUTCOME REQUIRED

I require:

1. written acknowledgement that this has been registered as a formal complaint;
2. a complaint reference number;
3. confirmation of the person or office responsible for investigating it;
4. individual answers to the questions contained in Section 8;
5. an explanation of what happened to my advance notice after its receipt on 6 August 2026;
6. an explanation of why the advance-notification process did not prevent confusion on 26 August 2026;
7. confirmation of whether any administrative or communication failure has been identified;
8. confirmation of what corrective action will be taken;
9. confirmation that the records identified in Section 9 have been preserved; and
10. a written apology if the investigation establishes that the advance notice was not handled properly.

12. RESPONSE AND AUDIT TRAIL

Please respond **in writing**.

I require the response to address the numbered questions individually so that there is a clear audit trail of what has and has not been answered.

This complaint concerns the conduct and administration of Court/HMCTS staff and security arrangements. It does **not** seek through the HMCTS complaints procedure to challenge a judicial decision.

Please acknowledge receipt and provide the complaint reference allocated to this matter.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, featuring a large, stylized 'D' followed by a series of loops and a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Derrick Lynch
also known as John Canoe

23 Jersey House
2 Eastfield Road
Enfield
EN3 5UY
United Kingdom

Email: Derrick_Lynch@hotmail.co.uk

Email: thereparationnation@gmail.com

Case Reference: 01GD1160226

Complaint Reference: DEL/WGCC/COMPLAINT/01/2026-08-26

WOOD GREEN

Wednesday, 05 August 2026 05/08/2026 08:54:21

Derrick Lynch (also known as John Canoe)

23 Jersey House
2 Eastfield Road
Enfield
EN3 5UY

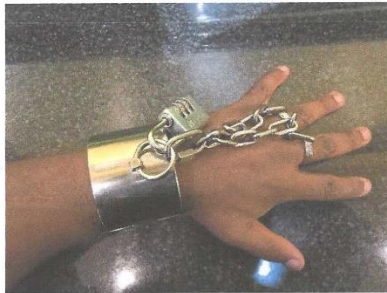
Email: Derrick_Lynch@hotmail.co.uk
Email: thereparationnation@gmail.com

Date: 5 August 2026

Court Security Manager

Wood Green Crown Court
Lordship Lane
Wood Green
London
N22 5LF

woodgreencrowncourt@justice.gov.uk



Subject: URGENT – Advance Notice for Hearing on 26 August 2026 – Religious Articles – Please Forward to Court Security and Relevant Staff

Dear Sir/Madam,

I write to provide advance notice before my attendance at Wood Green Crown Court on **26 August 2026**.

I will be attending court wearing religious articles on my arm and hand as part of my religious observance (VooDoo). These include a metal wrist/arm cuff with a short chain and a small combination padlock.

These articles are worn solely for religious purposes. They are not carried for any unlawful or improper purpose.

WOOD GREEN

Wednesday, 05 August 2026 05/08/2026 08:54:21

Derrick Lynch (also known as John Canoe)

23 Jersey House
2 Eastfield Road
Enfield
EN3 5UY

Email: Derrick_Lynch@hotmail.co.uk
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Date: 5 August 2026

Court Security Manager

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Lordship Lane
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THAMES

VOODOO

COURT SECURITY NOTICE — RELIGIOUS ARTICLES (VOODOO)

18 June 2026

Mr Derrick E. Lynch (also known as John Canoe)
23 Jersey House
2 Eastfield Road
Enfield
EN3 5UY
United Kingdom

Email: Derrick_Lynch@Hotmail.Co.UK
Email: thereparationnation@gmail.com

Court Security Manager
Stratford Magistrates' Court
389-397 High Street
Stratford
London
E15 4SB
United Kingdom

Subject: CASE REF 01GD1160226 – ADVANCE NOTICE OF RELIGIOUS ARTICLES TO BE WORN AT COURT

Dear Sir/Madam,

I write to provide advance notice that I will be attending Stratford Magistrates' Court in relation to Case Reference 01GD1160226.

I will be wearing religious articles as part of my Voodoo faith and religious observance.

The articles consist of a metal wrist/arm cuff with a short chain and a small combination padlock worn on my arm and hand. These items are worn solely for religious purposes and are not carried for any improper purpose.

I am providing this notice in advance so there is no misunderstanding, delay, difficulty, confrontation, or unnecessary disruption when I arrive at court.

I respectfully request that:

1. This notice is placed on record.
2. Relevant security staff are informed in advance that I may attend wearing these religious articles.

