

**Subject:** Request for access to Sheriff Court and prison records (SC21/18/13, SC39/68/31 and HH21/71/9)

**FOI reference:** 202000041620

**Date received:** 01 June 2020

**Date responded:** 21 January 2022

**Information requested:**

Access to court or prison records relating an individual.

**NRS Response:**

National Records of Scotland (NRS) holds a range of court and prison records which may hold information relating to Stanley Thomson. A search was carried out through the following sheriff court records from 1949 onwards:

- NRS Reference: SC23/54/5-10 Kirkcaldy Sheriff Court: Criminal and quasi-criminal roll books, 2 May 1946-20 Oct 1961 (six volumes)
- NRS Reference: SC21/18/9-14 Dumfermline Sheriff Court: Criminal and quasi-criminal roll books, 2 Jan 1948-19 Jun 1961 (six volumes)

An entry was found for Stanley Thomson in one of these volumes (SC21/18/13).

I then searched the following Saughton Prison records from 1949 onwards:

- NRS Reference: HH21/71/56-59 Edinburgh (Saughton) Prison: Indexes to Register of Criminal Prisoners (Male), 1947-1961 (four volumes)

I found an entry in one of these indexes (HH21/71/58) for Stanley Thomson. I then examined the following prison and court records to find the details of his case:

- NRS Reference: HH21/71/9 Edinburgh (Saughton) Prison: Register of Criminal Prisoners and their Religious Persuasions (Male), 1955-1958
- NRS Reference: SC39/68/31 Edinburgh Sheriff Court: Criminal and quasi-criminal roll book, 4 Apr 1957-31 Dec 1957

These records were transferred to NRS by the Scottish Prison Service (SPS) (HH21/71/9) and the Scottish Courts and Tribunals Service (SCTS) (SC21/18/13 and SC39/68/31), who remain the data controllers and make all decisions on access.

They have carried out a sensitivity review of the information contained in the entries and have decided that they can be released to you.

A transcription of the entries in the annex to this letter has been provided. The information has been provided in the form of a transcription as many other people's personal information appears on the same page as these entries. This other information is exempt from release under section 38(1)(b) of FOISA (personal

information), because it is personal data of potentially living third parties and disclosing it would contravene the General Data Protection Regulation and Data Protection Act 2018.

This exemption is not subject to the 'public interest test', so we are not required to consider if the public interest in disclosing the information outweighs the public interest in applying the exemption.

Transcription from roll books and prison register

The following are accurate transcriptions of entries in:

1. Dunfermline Sheriff Court criminal and quasi-criminal roll book, 17 Oct 1958-18 Jan 1960 (NRS ref. SC21/18/13)
2. Edinburgh Sheriff Court criminal and quasi-criminal roll book, 4 Apr 1957-31 Dec 1957 (NRS ref. SC39/68/31)
3. Edinburgh (Saughton) Prison Register of Criminal Prisoners and their Religious Persuasions (Male), 1955-1958 (NRS ref. HH21/71/9)

Explanatory notes are included in italics and square brackets.

1.

No. – 1697

Summary or jury – S [*summary*]

Date of first warrant – Aug 28 1959

To apprehend or cite – C [*cite*]

Prosecutor or complainer – PF [*Procurator Fiscal*]

Name of accused or respondent – Stanley Thomson

Crime, contravention or offence – (1) M.V. (Dr. Lic) Regs (2) Ditto [*Motor Vehicle (Driving Licence) Regulations*]

Date of declaration or first calling – Sep 24 1959

Plea – G [*guilty*]

Date assigned for further procedure – [blank]

Date of sentence – Sep 24 1959

Sheriff – RRK

Sentence of fine or imprisonment – £1 / £1 [or] 5 days / 5 days imprisonment  
[*£1 fine for each of the two charges, or 5 days imprisonment for each charge if payment not received within the time allowed*]

Time allowed for payment – 7 days, Oct 1

Date of payment – Oct 5

Fines etc. recovered on behalf of the Exchequer - £1 / £1

2.

No. – 4230

Summary or jury – S [*summary*]

Date of first warrant – Oct 18 [1957]

To apprehend or cite – A [*apprehend*]

Prosecutor or complainer – PF [*Procurator Fiscal*]  
Name of accused or respondent – Thomson, Stanley  
Crime, contravention or offence – Theft 2 chgs, RTAct S28 & S35 [*Road Traffic Act, section 28 and section 35*]  
Date of declaration or first calling – Oct 18 [1957]  
Plea – G [*guilty*]  
Date assigned for further procedure – [blank]  
Date of sentence – Oct 18 [1957]  
Sherriff – Middleton  
Sentence of fine or imprisonment – 1 – 1 month, 2 – 1 month, 3 – admon, 4 – 1 month [*one month imprisonment for three of the charges, and admonished for the other – admonishment means a caution/warning*]

3.

Reg. no. and sex – 1867, Edinburgh  
Date of admission – Oct 18 1957  
Committing magistrate or court – SH. SY. [*sheriff summary*]  
Previous imprisonments in any prison – / [*none*] [or] 1 fine [*unclear which this says*]  
Name – Stanley Thomson  
Age – 23  
Height – 5ft 5½in  
Education – 2  
Where born – Kirkcaldy  
Nationality – 1  
Prisoner's home – 23, Percival St., Kirkcaldy  
Occupation – Shoe repairer  
Religion – C.S. [*Church of Scotland*]  
Offence – (1) Theft (2 chgs), Cont. Sec.28(1) R.T.A. 1930 [*contravention of section 28(1) of the Road Traffic Act 1930*]  
Particulars of trial – Oct 18, SH. SY. [*sheriff summary*], Edinburgh  
Sentence if convicted – 111 [month] concur [*sentence of one month for each of the three charges, served concurrently*]  
Liberated or removed – [blank]