

6 years' imprisonment for convicted restaurant owner



- Mr Mohammed Zaman, a restaurant owner from Yorkshire, has been found guilty of manslaughter and sentenced to 6 years in prison after a customer died following a severe anaphylactic shock caused by eating a takeaway meal containing peanuts.
- Mr Paul Wilson, 38, a bar manager from Helperby North Yorkshire, purchased the meal in January 2014 from the Indian Garden restaurant in Easingwold, North Yorkshire.
- Mr Wilson specifically ordered a curry with 'no nuts', which was written on his order and the lid of his meal. Mr Wilson was later found slumped in the toilet of his home.
- The jury heard evidence from Mr Wilson's parents who described how 'meticulous' Mr Wilson was regarding the care he took in managing his nut allergy when eating out.
- The court heard how, despite warnings, Mr Zaman knowingly cut corners by swapping almond powder for a cheaper groundnut mix which contained peanuts.
- Richard Wright QC for the prosecution described Mr Zaman as putting 'profit before safety'. He said 'his reckless and cavalier attitude to risk is one that we would describe as grossly negligent.'
- Three weeks before Mr Wilson died another customer with a nut allergy was hospitalised after eating a meal from one of Mr Zaman's restaurants despite being assured it would not contain nuts.
- Mr Zaman, a father of four, was reported to have shown no remorse throughout his trial. He told jurors he was not on the premises at the time of the incident and attempted to blame managers and staff who he claimed he left to run his restaurants and order stock.
- Mr Zaman was found guilty of manslaughter by gross negligence and six food safety offenses.
- AG acts for a range of clients across the retail & consumer sector and has particular expertise in safety cases. We are one of the few major UK law firms to have a specialist Safety Group, which is dedicated to all aspects of safety and its management, including defending prosecutions under the new sentencing guidelines.

"AG's health and safety offering 'sits at the top of the tree', and combines 'meticulous preparation with first-class client handling'."

How we can help

PROACTIVE ADVICE	IF THINGS DO GO WRONG...
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Legislation, regulations and policies• Strategy and proactive audits• Criminal and civil liability• Policies and risk exposure• Corporate due diligence	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 24/7 crisis support for major incidents and investigations by the relevant regulatory authority• We mount our own legally privileged investigations on behalf of clients in order to protect their position with regard to anticipated civil and criminal proceedings• Representation from initial dealings with regulatory authorities through to trial
TRAINING YOUR TEAM	REDUCING COSTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Training for all levels of your business• Crisis management and the Health & Safety (Offences) Act 2008• New sentencing guidelines for health and safety and food crime matters	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Competitive fee proposals• Embedded Transaction Services Team of paralegals• Development of standard precedents and approaches• Sharing industry know-how, market practice and horizon scanning updates

Who we have helped

Having been entrusted with the work of the **Health and Safety Executive** for over 25 years, we have considerable experience in this area combining both prosecution and defence work. We voluntarily handed back this contract to concentrate on defence work. This almost unique and unrivalled offering within the UK's legal market provides us with a platform to give our clients balanced, incisive and commercial advice on any health and safety issues arising out of their business activities. It also enables us to provide practical insight when assessing clients with pro-active audits – we can look at a client's systems with the "eyes" of the regulator.

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