# Woman sentenced to one day in custody for smashing neighbour's window



A recent incident in Burbage, Leicestershire, has garnered attention following a court hearing involving Samantha Barr, a 38-year-old woman who admitted to causing criminal damage by smashing a neighbour's front window. The event occurred early in the morning on Friday, December 27, 2022, at Barr's council house located in The Meadows area, near Hinckley.

Local CCTV cameras captured Barr approaching the victim’s residence, knocking on the door, and then breaking the window. After the act, she directed offensive language towards the camera and made threats of violence against the homeowner before leaving the scene. At the time of the incident, the victim was not present but later observed the footage remotely and subsequently reported the damage to Leicestershire Police.

During the hearing at Leicester Magistrates' Court on Monday, April 14, 2023, prosecutor Tracy Lovejoy presented a victim statement, revealing that the homeowner had relocated to The Meadows to escape issues from her previous neighbourhood, seeking a fresh start. Lovejoy noted that the victim had experienced similar distressing situations before and, following the window smash, her mental health had declined significantly. The woman expressed feelings of anxiety, a lack of safety in her home, and an aversion to being there.

Barr’s legal representative, Amena Aijaz, outlined her client's struggles with serious mental health conditions, mentioning that Barr had been wrongly accused of domestic violence by an unidentified person. Aijaz highlighted Barr’s diagnoses of schizophrenia and severe depression, for which she is currently receiving medication. Aijaz indicated that Barr's actions stemmed from a growing frustration over the ongoing police involvement due to the unsubstantiated allegations against her.

During the proceedings, Barr expressed her distress, informing the magistrates, “Police had took my husband away for nothing. I'm terrified of being at home. I'm scared of being outside.” Following the incident, Barr was also convicted of damaging a police car on the same day, with that matter addressed by the court in February.

The magistrates, acknowledging Barr's mental health challenges and her emotional state in court, sentenced her to one day's custody, which was considered served by the duration of her appearance in the session. Magistrates' Court Chairman Jane Hanson expressed a desire for Barr’s recovery, stating, “The court wishes you well with your recovery. You're free to leave.”

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## References

* <https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/your-council/council-houses> - This link provides general information about council houses in Leicestershire, which is relevant to the article’s mention of Samantha Barr's residence.
* <https://www.leics.police.uk/> - The Leicestershire Police website can provide context for how incidents like the one described are typically handled and reported.
* <https://www.gov.uk/courts-and-tribunals/magistrates-court> - This government website explains the role and functions of magistrates' courts in the UK, such as the one in Leicester where the hearing took place.
* <https://www.nhs.uk/mental-health/common-mental-health-conditions/schizophrenia/> - This NHS webpage offers information on schizophrenia, which is relevant to Samantha Barr's mental health conditions mentioned in the article.
* <https://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/types-of-mental-health-problems/depression/> - This resource from Mind provides insights into severe depression, another mental health condition mentioned as affecting Samantha Barr.
* <https://www.local.gov.uk/our-support/health-and-social-care/mental-health> - This website discusses mental health support within local communities, which could relate to the services available to individuals like Samantha Barr.
* <https://www.leicestermercury.co.uk/news/local-news/woman-smashed-neighbours-front-window-10105658> - Please view link - unable to able to access data