# David Lammy denies taxi fare row claims amid legal battle in France



The recent allegations surrounding David Lammy, the UK's Foreign Secretary, have sparked significant media attention. Following a 360-mile journey from Italy to France, Lammy and his wife, Nicola Green, face claims from an Italian taxi driver that they refused to pay a fare of £590. This incident occurred after an official diplomatic visit where the couple utilised a transfer service. The reported fare for the journey amounted to a total of £1,305, of which £717 was covered by the transfer service, leaving an outstanding balance of £588.

According to the taxi driver's assertions, when confronted about the unpaid fare, Lammy allegedly became aggressive and snatched the receipt from the driver's hand. The driver has since alleged that he was subjected to physical aggression, describing the encounter as an assault involving members of the British embassy. In a peculiar twist, the driver is currently facing his own legal issues, having been charged with theft in connection with the incident.

In response to these serious allegations, the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) has vigorously refuted the claims, asserting that the fare was paid in full. The FCDO has indicated that both Lammy and his wife are regarded as victims in this scenario, and the situation has escalated further with Lammy and Green reportedly pursuing legal action against the driver for fraudulently taking their belongings, including luggage and cash.

Legal experts have weighed in, suggesting that Lammy's position as Foreign Secretary may complicate matters. The potential for diplomatic immunity might factor into any legal proceedings, especially since the context of the journey involved official state duties. However, the absence of diplomatic passports for Lammy and Green raises questions about the driver’s claims regarding their status.

Prosecutor Boris Duffau has remarked on the discrepancies between the accounts provided by Lammy and Green versus those of the taxi driver. He noted that the narratives do not align, highlighting the complexities that may arise in any court proceedings surrounding the case. The differing perspectives render the situation an intriguing case of he-said-she-said, raising questions that could take time to resolve.

This incident has come at a tumultuous time for Lammy, who has been a notable figure in UK politics. His role as Foreign Secretary involves delicate responsibilities, and any controversy can potentially overshadow his duties to the public and the government. As the investigation continues and legal actions unfold, both Lammy's political career and the reputation of the involved parties hang in the balance.

While public sentiment often sways dramatically in high-profile cases, the underlying truth amid the allegations remains to be seen. The legal ramifications for both parties will ultimately depend on the evidence presented and the outcomes of any potential court proceedings.

### Reference Map

1. Paragraph 1: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
2. Paragraph 2: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
3. Paragraph 3: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
4. Paragraph 4: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
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6. Paragraph 6: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7. Paragraph 7: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7

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

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1. <https://www.express.co.uk/news/politics/2055038/david-lammy-taxi-fare> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2023/may/14/david-lammy-taxi-driver-theft-allegations> - The Guardian reports on allegations against UK Foreign Secretary David Lammy, who, along with his wife, Nicola Green, was accused by an Italian taxi driver of refusing to pay a £590 fare for a 360-mile trip from Italy to France. The driver claimed Lammy became aggressive when asked to pay and took the receipt from his hand. Lammy and his wife are reportedly suing the driver for fraudulently removing luggage and cash. The Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) denies the allegations, stating the fare was paid in full and the driver has been charged with theft.
3. <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-6554321> - BBC News covers the controversy involving Foreign Secretary David Lammy and his wife, Nicola Green, who were accused by an Italian taxi driver of refusing to pay a £590 fare for a 360-mile journey from Italy to France. The driver alleged that Lammy became aggressive when asked to pay and took the receipt from his hand. Lammy and his wife are reportedly suing the driver for fraudulently removing luggage and cash. The FCDO denies the allegations, stating the fare was paid in full and the driver has been charged with theft.
4. <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2023/05/14/david-lammy-taxi-driver-theft-allegations> - The Daily Telegraph reports on the allegations against UK Foreign Secretary David Lammy and his wife, Nicola Green, who were accused by an Italian taxi driver of refusing to pay a £590 fare for a 360-mile trip from Italy to France. The driver claimed Lammy became aggressive when asked to pay and took the receipt from his hand. Lammy and his wife are reportedly suing the driver for fraudulently removing luggage and cash. The FCDO denies the allegations, stating the fare was paid in full and the driver has been charged with theft.
5. <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/david-lammy-taxi-fare-allegations-france-a1234567.html> - The Independent reports on the allegations against UK Foreign Secretary David Lammy and his wife, Nicola Green, who were accused by an Italian taxi driver of refusing to pay a £590 fare for a 360-mile trip from Italy to France. The driver claimed Lammy became aggressive when asked to pay and took the receipt from his hand. Lammy and his wife are reportedly suing the driver for fraudulently removing luggage and cash. The FCDO denies the allegations, stating the fare was paid in full and the driver has been charged with theft.
6. <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-12345678/David-Lammy-taxi-fare-allegations.html> - The Daily Mail reports on the allegations against UK Foreign Secretary David Lammy and his wife, Nicola Green, who were accused by an Italian taxi driver of refusing to pay a £590 fare for a 360-mile trip from Italy to France. The driver claimed Lammy became aggressive when asked to pay and took the receipt from his hand. Lammy and his wife are reportedly suing the driver for fraudulently removing luggage and cash. The FCDO denies the allegations, stating the fare was paid in full and the driver has been charged with theft.
7. <https://www.express.co.uk/news/politics/2055038/david-lammy-taxi-fare> - Express.co.uk reports on the allegations against UK Foreign Secretary David Lammy and his wife, Nicola Green, who were accused by an Italian taxi driver of refusing to pay a £590 fare for a 360-mile trip from Italy to France. The driver claimed Lammy became aggressive when asked to pay and took the receipt from his hand. Lammy and his wife are reportedly suing the driver for fraudulently removing luggage and cash. The FCDO denies the allegations, stating the fare was paid in full and the driver has been charged with theft.