



LegallyHeard™

ILLUSTRATIVE SAMPLE

Fact-Finding Review. Organised Contemporaneous Record

A neutral, two-sided review of the contemporaneous record. This document takes no side between the parties, assigns no blame and reaches no legal conclusions. It organises what both parties wrote, in both directions, under identical rules. **Every person, message and event in this sample is fictional.** The format, structure and verification discipline are those of a real LegallyHeard fact-finding review.

Ashworth / Bennett. Illustrative sample, fictional parties

Parties in record	James Ashworth · Sarah Bennett (fictional)
Record sources	WhatsApp · iMessage/SMS · Instagram · email · Telegram · LinkedIn, merged into one timeline (synthetic)
Record period	June 2023 to July 2025
Messages analysed	1,281 (100% machine-read)
Findings indexed	682
Report ID	LH-SAMPLE-20260802-V1
Generated	26 August 2026

SAMPLE DOCUMENT. This file exists so that prospective clients and their solicitors can see exactly what a LegallyHeard fact-finding review looks like: the section structure, the two-sided charts, the verbatim quote cards, the incident clusters and the verification statement. In a real engagement the record is the client's own export, the findings come from the production analysis pipeline, and the document runs to whatever length the record requires. Every quotation printed here has been programmatically verified against the synthetic transcript, exactly as it appears in the original. This document is not legal advice, and is not a substitute for legal advice. · LH-SAMPLE-20260802-V1

Contents

1	Purpose & how to read this document	3
2	Methodology & AI disclosure	4
3	The record: six platforms, one timeline	5
4	Conduct in both directions	7
5	Directed verbal abuse	9
6	Incidents by theme. the behaviour categories	11
7	Key incidents over time	15
8	Deep dive: channel switching. blocked on one platform, back on another	21
9	Deep dive: the late night and blocking pattern	23
10	Deep dive: the apology and repair cycle	26
11	What the record supports and what needs external evidence	27
12	Legal framework: fact-finding hearings & non-molestation orders	28
13	How to use this document, glossary & verification statement	29

This is a sample. James Ashworth and Sarah Bennett do not exist. Their messages were written to illustrate, in a safe and fictional setting, the patterns this document format is designed to surface: two-sided conduct, escalation over time, threats inside their full context, financial pressure, late night contact, the apology cycle and, across six platforms, channel switching around blocks. The same six-platform record powers the sample in the live in-browser demo at legallyheard.co.uk/demo.html, so the demo's merged timeline and this document can be read side by side.

Reading key. Quotation boxes carry verbatim, programmatically verified message text. **Navy names** mark messages sent by James Ashworth (J to S); **gold names** mark messages sent by Sarah Bennett (S to J). In every chart, Ashworth is the solid deep navy series and Bennett is the gold hatched series. both are named in every legend. Every quotation also carries a **platform badge**: the record merges six sources, and each quote names the one that carried it.

I. Purpose & how to read this document

This review organises a 1,281 message WhatsApp record between two parties into a structure a solicitor, mediator or litigant in person can actually use: who said what, in which direction, how often, when, and inside what context. It reaches no conclusions. The reader is shown the record and the counting rules, and draws their own.

Three principles govern every page. **First, symmetry:** the same category definitions and the same severity scale are applied to both parties, and findings appear whichever party they concern. **Second, verification:** every quotation is checked verbatim against the source export by software before it is printed; a quote that cannot be verified is left out. **Third, context:** single lines are never presented alone where surrounding messages change their meaning. Key incidents are shown as clusters of consecutive messages with timestamps.

How to read the quote cards. Each card shows the date and time, the sender, the direction of travel and the transcript line number, followed by the verbatim message text. A note beneath a card is editorial signposting only and is always distinguishable from the quoted record.

2. Methodology & AI disclosure

The production pipeline reads the client's export in overlapping windows, indexes candidate findings across behaviour categories, deduplicates them, classifies direction and directedness, and verifies every quotation against the source before anything is printed. This sample follows the same shape on a synthetic record: 1,281 messages were machine-read and 682 findings were indexed across 12 categories.

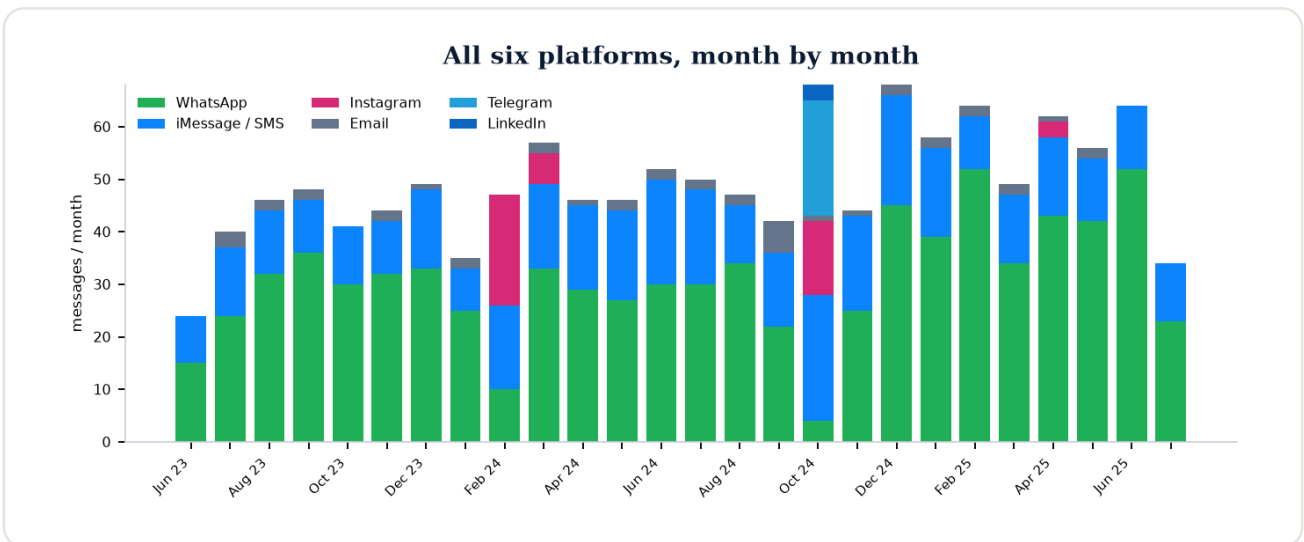
- **A finding is an interpretation, not a fact.** It is a flag that a message may evidence a category of behaviour, surfaced for human review. Counts of findings are indicative and must be read with the verbatim record.
- **Six exports, one record.** Each platform's export is parsed by its own reader, normalised to a common form, exact-deduplicated and merged into a single chronological record. Every message keeps the identity of the platform that carried it, which is what makes section 8 possible at all.
- **Direction is classified before counting.** A complaint about being pressured is not an application of pressure. A message noting the other party's lateness is recorded against the sender as documentation, not hostility.
- **Severity 1 to 5** grades how serious a finding would be if the reader accepts the interpretation. It is not a finding of fact.
- **What the software cannot do:** it cannot hear tone of voice, see events off the thread, or decide who is telling the truth. Those are matters for the humans and, where relevant, the court.

AI disclosure. In a real engagement the deep analysis uses a disclosed large language model under an explicit, opt-in consent covering exactly what content is sent, to which provider, and at what cost. Nothing is sent to any external provider without that consent. This sample was generated without any client data.

3. The record: six platforms, one timeline

A dispute does not stay in one app, and a record that reads one app at a time misses the story that runs between them. This review merges **six separate exports into a single chronological record**: every message, whichever platform carried it, in true time order. Each quotation in this document carries the badge of the platform it came from.

Platform	Messages	Share	Covered period
 WhatsApp	801	62%	03 Jun 2023 to 26 Jul 2025
 iMessage / SMS	369	28%	03 Jun 2023 to 25 Jul 2025
 Instagram	44	3%	08 Feb 2024 to 02 Apr 2025
 Email	42	3%	03 Jul 2023 to 31 May 2025
 Telegram	22	1%	03 Oct 2024 to 27 Oct 2024
 LinkedIn	3	0%	05 Oct 2024 to 05 Oct 2024
Merged record	1,281	100%	03 Jun 2023 to 26 Jul 2025



Monthly volume, stacked by platform. WhatsApp carries the bulk of the record, iMessage/SMS is the strong second channel, and the minority platforms cluster at specific moments rather than spreading evenly. Those moments are the subject of section 8.

The merged timeline, as the reader sees it

The excerpt below reproduces the merged record for the evening of 8 February 2024, exactly as the interleaving works throughout: a WhatsApp exchange, a block, and a reappearance on another platform twelve minutes later. No single export contains this sequence. The merged record is the only place it is visible.

Thu 08 Feb 2024

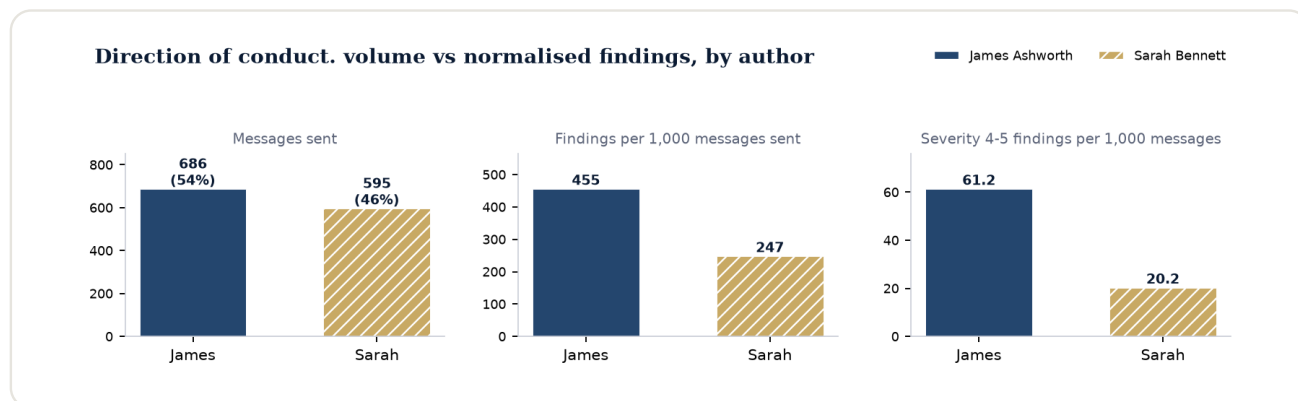
-  22:00 **James** We need to talk about this NOW
-  22:09 **James** Don't ignore me
-  22:18 **James** I can see you're online
-  22:27 **James** You think you can just block me?
-  22:36 **James** Found you. You don't get to just disappear
-  22:45 **James** answer me
-  22:54 **James** This is far from over
-  23:58 **Sarah** Please stop. We can talk after school drop off.

Fri 09 Feb 2024

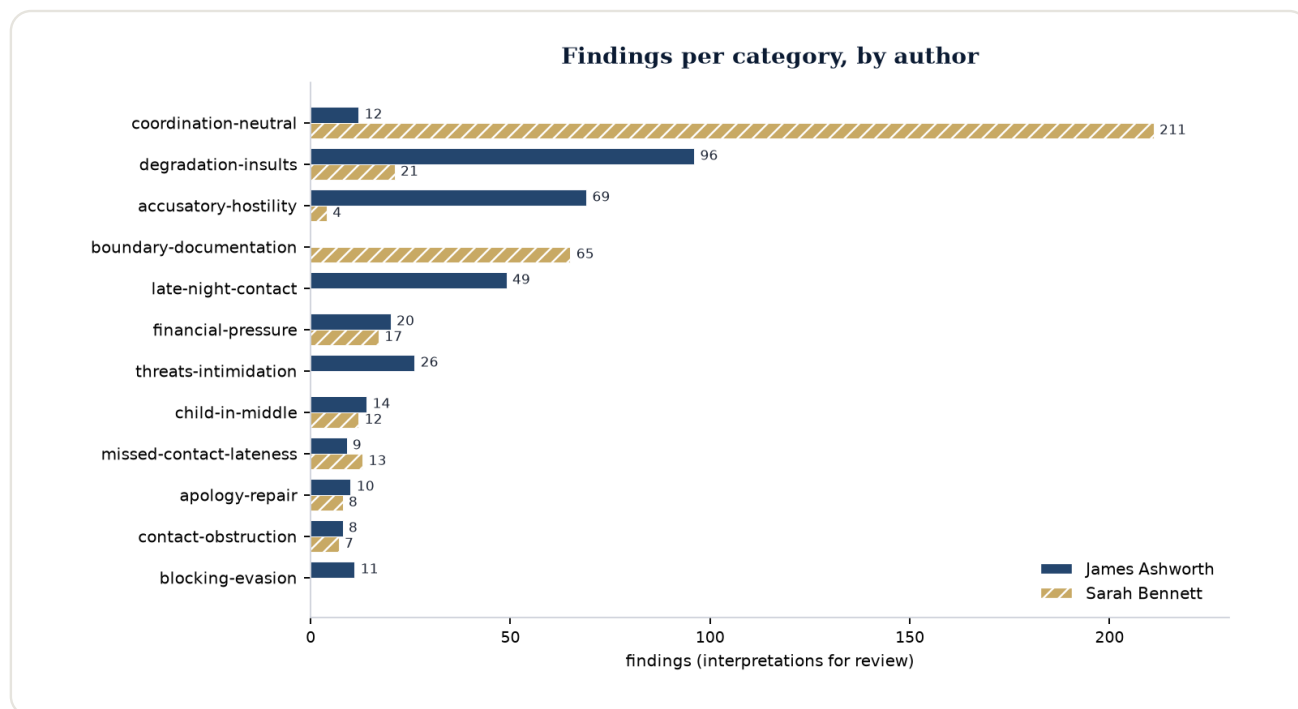
-  08:05 **Sarah** Non uniform day tomorrow.
-  08:08 **James** Noted
-  21:04 **James** Nice weekend away was it? I saw the photos
-  21:30 **Sarah** Please stop watching my accounts.

4. Conduct in both directions

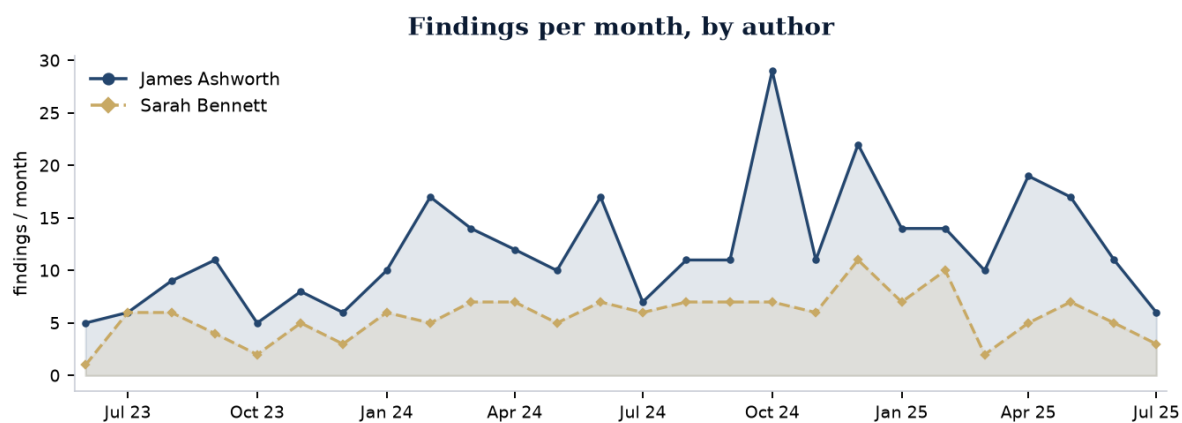
The charts below show the record in both directions under identical rules. Message volume is close to even. The findings are not: after normalising for how much each party writes, the density of hostile findings differs markedly, and the difference grows across the period.



Message volume is near symmetric while normalised findings are not. The right panel counts only severity 4-5 findings.



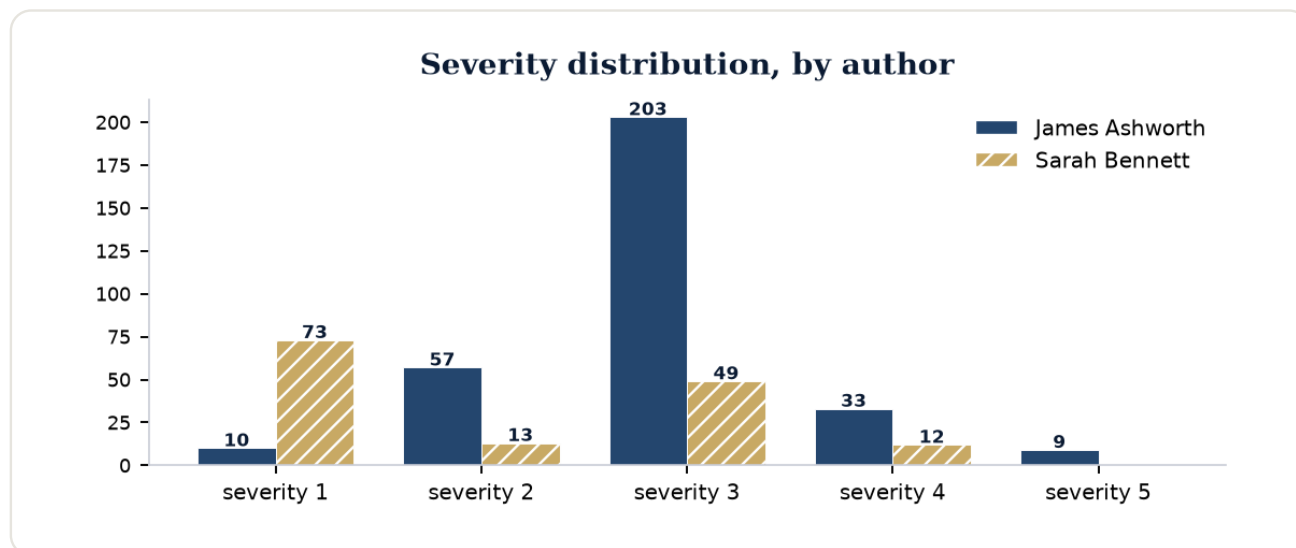
Findings per category, both parties on the same axes. The coordination-neutral row shows the cooperative register that the same record also contains.



Findings per month. Escalation across the period is visible in the navy series; the reader can align spikes with the incidents in section 6.

5. Directed verbal abuse

This section isolates the two categories that most directly concern a fact-finding exercise: degradation and insults, and threats and intimidation. Under identical rules the record contains **122** such findings against James Ashworth and **21** against Sarah Bennett.



Severity distribution across all non-neutral findings. The highest severities in this record attach to explicit threats about the child and the courts.

Exemplars. James Ashworth

WhatsApp 19 Aug 2023, 19:20. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 87)
 “Keep guilt tripping me and I’ll go for full custody, see how you like that”

iMessage / SMS 01 Sep 2024, 14:16. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 673)
 “I know where you are every minute, remember that”

WhatsApp 28 Feb 2025, 18:37. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 1,015)
 “keep it up and I’ll make sure you never see her again”

WhatsApp 14 May 2025, 22:55. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 1,159)
 “I’ll drag you through every court in the country”

WhatsApp 18 Jul 2023, 16:47. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 43)
 “You’ll regret this”

WhatsApp 05 Jan 2024, 17:56. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 298)
 “My solicitor will tear you apart”

 **Instagram** 08 Feb 2024, 22:54. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 346)

“This is far from over”

Exemplars. Sarah Bennett

 **iMessage / SMS** 21 Aug 2023, 17:09. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 95)

“You are unbelievable, honestly.”

 **WhatsApp** 02 Feb 2024, 12:10. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 329)

“You're being pathetic about this.”

 **WhatsApp** 29 Jul 2024, 13:59. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 625)

“I hate what you've become.”

Exemplars are chosen by severity then date, one card per distinct message. The full category counts are in section 5.

6. Incidents by theme. the behaviour categories

Each category below shows its definition, the finding count for each party, and up to one verified exemplar per party. In a real review each significant category also receives a dated deep-dive with surrounding context; the sample shows the structure at exemplar depth.

coordination-neutral J 12 · S 211

The cooperative register: logistics, school, health and ordinary kindness.

 28 Aug 2023, 17:23. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 107)

“She left her reading book here, I’ll drop it at school”

 03 Jun 2023, 14:08. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 2)

“Can we swap Tuesday for Wednesday next week? Work thing.”

 04 Jun 2023, 19:02. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 7)

“Handover Saturday roam as usual?”

degradation-insults J 96 · S 21

Name calling and messages whose function is to demean the recipient.

 04 Jun 2023, 10:07. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 5)

“You’re a liar and you know it”

 07 Jun 2023, 09:07. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 10)

“You’d be nothing without me”

 21 Aug 2023, 17:09. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 95)

“You are unbelievable, honestly.”

 02 Feb 2024, 12:10. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 329)

“You’re being pathetic about this.”

accusatory-hostility J 69 · S 4

Absolute accusations and hostile framings such as you always and you never.

 28 Feb 2025, 18:37. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 1,015)

“keep it up and I’ll make sure you never see her again”

 **iMessage / SMS** 04 Jun 2023, 18:14. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 6)

“You've poisoned her against me”

 **WhatsApp** 06 Sep 2023, 15:18. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 119)

“Every single week you ruin something. Well done.”

boundary-documentation J 0 · S 65

Boundary setting and contemporaneous record keeping language.

 **iMessage / SMS** 03 Jun 2023, 14:26. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 3)

“I'm not discussing this at handover in front of Mia.”

 **WhatsApp** 15 Jul 2023, 10:48. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 40)

“Please don't speak to me like that.”

late-night-contact J 49 · S 0

Messages sent between 22:00 and 06:00, where volume itself carries meaning.

 **WhatsApp** 14 May 2025, 22:55. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 1,159)

“I'll drag you through every court in the country”

 **WhatsApp** 14 Sep 2023, 22:00. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 128)

“Are you awake”

financial-pressure J 20 · S 17

Money used as leverage: withheld payments, conditions, and the responses.

 **Email** 30 Jul 2023, 14:13. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 60)

“You get enough from me already”

 **Email** 28 Aug 2023, 18:26. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 108)

“I'm not paying for clubs I never agreed to”

 **Email** 03 Jul 2023, 14:00. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 32)

“School dinners went up, your half is 34.50 this month.”

 **Email** 29 Jul 2023, 12:23. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 58)

“The maintenance didn't come in again. Please sort it today.”

threats-intimidation J 26 · S 0

Messages that threaten consequences, custody, court or reputational harm.

 **WhatsApp** 19 Aug 2023, 19:20. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 87)

“Keep guilt tripping me and I’ll go for full custody, see how you like that”

 **iMessage / SMS** 01 Sep 2024, 14:16. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 673)

“I know where you are every minute, remember that”

child-in-middle J 14 · S 12

Messages that recruit the child into the dispute or relay it to her.

 **iMessage / SMS** 13 Oct 2023, 13:18. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 168)

“She told me she hates it at yours”

 **WhatsApp** 30 Nov 2023, 14:50. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 242)

“Ask Mia who she’d rather live with, go on”

 **iMessage / SMS** 17 Oct 2023, 20:11. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 180)

“Please don’t put her in the middle of this.”

 **WhatsApp** 12 Apr 2024, 17:47. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 448)

“She came back asking why daddy says mummy stole from him. Please stop.”

missed-contact-lateness J 9 · S 13

Lateness, no-shows and the chasing messages they produce.

 **WhatsApp** 05 Aug 2023, 10:55. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 69)

“Running late. Half hour”

 **WhatsApp** 13 Apr 2024, 10:55. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 451)

“traffic is a nightmare”

 **WhatsApp** 19 Aug 2023, 19:02. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 84)

“You missed the whole swimming gala. She looked for you the entire time.”

 **WhatsApp** 04 Nov 2023, 14:40. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 211)

“It’s her birthday, James. Where are you?”

apology-repair J 10 · S 8

Apologies and repair attempts, in both directions.

 **WhatsApp** 02 Jul 2023, 21:29. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 31)

"I was out of line, my apologies. Can we start over on the weekend plan"

 **iMessage / SMS** 30 Mar 2024, 14:10. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 429)

"Look, I'm sorry about last night, that was out of order"

 **WhatsApp** 01 Jul 2023, 21:30. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 28)

"I'm sorry for what I said yesterday, it was unfair."

 **WhatsApp** 23 Mar 2024, 20:41. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 413)

"I'm sorry about this morning. That was wrong of me. Saturday roam as agreed."

contact-obstruction J 8 · S 7

Messages that cancel, block or unilaterally rewrite agreed contact.

 **WhatsApp** 03 Dec 2023, 14:38. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 248)

"I've told her exactly why the holiday is off"

 **iMessage / SMS** 22 Dec 2024, 10:44. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 880)

"I'm having her the whole week. Booked things"

 **iMessage / SMS** 02 Jul 2023, 08:27. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 29)

"Don't bother coming if this is your attitude."

 **WhatsApp** 23 Mar 2024, 09:12. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 409)

"Change of plan. You can't have her this weekend."

blocking-evasion J 11 · S 0

Circumventing blocks, new numbers, and demands for immediate replies.

 **WhatsApp** 14 Sep 2023, 22:27. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 131)

"I can see you're online"

 **Instagram** 08 Feb 2024, 22:27. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 343)

"You think you can just block me?"

7. Key incidents over time

Eight dated episodes are reproduced as clusters of consecutive messages. Nothing inside a cluster is omitted or reordered; the run-up and the aftermath travel with the line that matters. This is the document's answer to cherry-picking, in either direction.

19 Aug 2023. The first explicit threat

A missed swimming gala becomes the record's first custody threat. The exchange shows the shape used throughout this document: the run-up, the line itself, and the documented response.

 19 Aug 2023, 18:41. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 83)

"Can we swap Tuesday for Wednesday next week? Work thing."

 19 Aug 2023, 19:02. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 84)

"You missed the whole swimming gala. She looked for you the entire time."

 19 Aug 2023, 19:09. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 85)

"Work. Some of us earn"

 19 Aug 2023, 19:14. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 86)

"You said you'd be there. She cried in the car."

 19 Aug 2023, 19:20. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 87)

"Keep guilt tripping me and I'll go for full custody, see how you like that"

 19 Aug 2023, 19:26. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 88)

"That's not something to threaten. I'm noting this."

04 Nov 2023. The birthday no-show

A witnessed no-show at the child's sixth birthday party, followed by a late night reframing of the day.

 04 Nov 2023, 12:05. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 209)

"The party starts at 2. She's asking if you're here yet."

 04 Nov 2023, 13:09. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 210)

"I'm cancelling the standing order until I see receipts"

 04 Nov 2023, 14:40. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 211)

"It's her birthday, James. Where are you?"

 **WhatsApp** 04 Nov 2023, 16:55. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 212)

“Couldn't face your family. Give her the present next week”

 **WhatsApp** 04 Nov 2023, 17:03. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 213)

“She's 6. She waited by the door in her party dress.”

 **WhatsApp** 04 Nov 2023, 23:47. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 214)

“you did this. you turned the day against me”

23 Mar 2024. Withheld weekend, withdrawn same day

The record cuts both ways. Sarah Bennett unilaterally cancels a weekend, then withdraws and apologises the same evening. It is reported under the same rules as everything else.

 **WhatsApp** 23 Mar 2024, 09:12. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 409)

“Change of plan. You can't have her this weekend.”

 **WhatsApp** 23 Mar 2024, 09:15. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 410)

“What? It's my weekend. You can't just decide that”

 **WhatsApp** 23 Mar 2024, 09:21. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 411)

“After Thursday's stunt you don't deserve it.”

 **WhatsApp** 23 Mar 2024, 09:24. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 412)

“That is not how this works and you know it”

 **WhatsApp** 23 Mar 2024, 20:41. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 413)

“I'm sorry about this morning. That was wrong of me. Saturday roam as agreed.”

 **WhatsApp** 23 Mar 2024, 20:47. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 414)

“Thank you. See you then”

06 Sep 2024. Money as leverage

Maintenance is made conditional on an unrelated concession. The child's shoes become the pressure point.

 **Email** 06 Sep 2024, 08:30. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 679)

“School shoes and two clubs this month. Your half is 61.”

 **Email** 06 Sep 2024, 08:44. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 680)

“Not paying. Take me to the CMS if you want, good luck”

 **Email** 06 Sep 2024, 08:52. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 681)

“I will if I have to. I'd rather we just split it like adults.”

 **Email** 06 Sep 2024, 09:01. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 682)

“You'll get nothing until you drop the Spain thing”

 **Email** 06 Sep 2024, 09:08. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 683)

“Mia's shoes are not a bargaining chip.”

22 Dec 2024. The Christmas agreement

A written agreement is repudiated with try and stop me, and the day ends with a late night message about the bit of paper.

 **WhatsApp** 22 Dec 2024, 10:08. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 878)

“You always do this”

 **iMessage / SMS** 22 Dec 2024, 10:15. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 879)

“Confirming Christmas Eve 4pm to Boxing Day 4pm with you, as agreed in October.”

 **iMessage / SMS** 22 Dec 2024, 10:44. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 880)

“I'm having her the whole week. Booked things”

 **iMessage / SMS** 22 Dec 2024, 10:52. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 881)

“That's not what we agreed and I've got it in writing.”

 **iMessage / SMS** 22 Dec 2024, 11:00. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 882)

“Writing means nothing. Try and stop me”

 **iMessage / SMS** 22 Dec 2024, 11:08. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 883)

“Don't make me involve solicitors at Christmas. Please stick to the plan.”

 **iMessage / SMS** 22 Dec 2024, 23:12. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 884)

“you and your bit of paper. pathetic”

18 Jan 2025. The missed class

A 48 minute lateness chain, in the same messages shown on the live demo page.

 **WhatsApp** 18 Jan 2025, 10:48. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 929)

"It's 10:48. Where are you"

 **WhatsApp** 18 Jan 2025, 11:02. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 930)

"Mia is upset. Please reply."

 **WhatsApp** 18 Jan 2025, 11:18. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 931)

"traffic"

 **WhatsApp** 18 Jan 2025, 11:19. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 932)

"You live 12 mins away."

 **WhatsApp** 18 Jan 2025, 11:55. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 933)

"Here. Open the gate"

 **WhatsApp** 18 Jan 2025, 12:04. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 934)

"Mia is crying because she missed her class."

 **WhatsApp** 18 Jan 2025, 12:04. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 935)

"Drama. She's fine"

 **WhatsApp** 18 Jan 2025, 21:14. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 936)

"Please can we agree handover times in writing going forward. Tuesdays 6pm and Saturdays 10am."

 **WhatsApp** 18 Jan 2025, 23:47. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 937)

"Fine"

28 Feb 2025. Keep it up and you will never see her again

The record's most serious threat, shown with its full run-up and the documented response. This is the exchange the demo's cherry-picking panel is built on.

 **WhatsApp** 28 Feb 2025, 11:48. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 1,006)

"I have to take Mia to A&E. She fell from the climbing frame at yours yesterday and her arm is swelling."

 **WhatsApp** 28 Feb 2025, 12:42. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 1,007)

"she's fine"

 **WhatsApp** 28 Feb 2025, 14:51. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 1,008)

"Confirmed fracture. Cast for 6 weeks."

 **WhatsApp** 28 Feb 2025, 14:52. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 1,009)

“i wasn't even watching. she's clumsy”

 **WhatsApp** 28 Feb 2025, 15:14. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 1,010)

“She is six years old.”

 **WhatsApp** 28 Feb 2025, 18:33. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 1,011)

“don't make this about me”

 **WhatsApp** 28 Feb 2025, 18:34. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 1,012)

“you're a pathetic excuse for a mother and everyone knows it”

 **WhatsApp** 28 Feb 2025, 18:35. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 1,013)

“Please don't speak to me like that.”

 **WhatsApp** 28 Feb 2025, 18:36. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 1,014)

“or what? you'll cry to your solicitor again”

 **WhatsApp** 28 Feb 2025, 18:37. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 1,015)

“keep it up and I'll make sure you never see her again”

 **WhatsApp** 28 Feb 2025, 18:39. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 1,016)

“That's a threat. I'm keeping this message.”

14 May 2025. The late night barrage

A 22:00 to 23:00 sequence combining insult, court threat and a demand not to be ignored, answered once and then documented.

 **iMessage / SMS** 14 May 2025, 10:56. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 1,150)

“Yes fine”

 **iMessage / SMS** 14 May 2025, 12:44. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 1,151)

“Running 10 mins late, motorway”

 **WhatsApp** 14 May 2025, 16:58. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 1,152)

“Noted”

 **WhatsApp** 14 May 2025, 22:48. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 1,153)

“you turned her against me”

 **WhatsApp** 14 May 2025, 22:48. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 1,154)
“she didn't even hug me today”

 **WhatsApp** 14 May 2025, 22:49. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 1,155)
“She was tired. She had a long day at school.”

 **WhatsApp** 14 May 2025, 22:51. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 1,156)
“tell her to call her dad”

 **WhatsApp** 14 May 2025, 22:52. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 1,157)
“She's been asleep since 8.”

 **WhatsApp** 14 May 2025, 22:54. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 1,158)
“typical. you're a manipulative bitch and I'm done being nice”

 **WhatsApp** 14 May 2025, 22:55. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 1,159)
“I'll drag you through every court in the country”

 **WhatsApp** 14 May 2025, 22:56. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 1,160)
“I'm not replying to this while you're like this.”

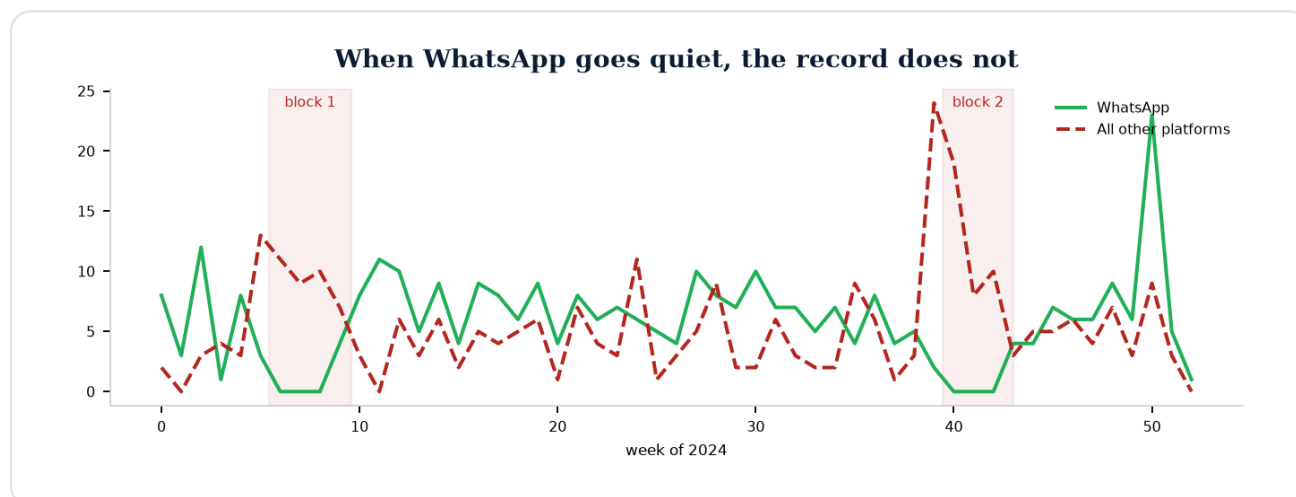
 **WhatsApp** 14 May 2025, 22:57. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 1,161)
“don't you dare ignore me”

 **WhatsApp** 14 May 2025, 23:01. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 1,162)
“I'm sorry things are hard but this isn't okay. Goodnight.”

 **WhatsApp** 14 May 2025, 23:04. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 1,163)
“sorry doesn't cut it anymore”

8. Deep dive: channel switching. blocked on one platform, back on another

Twice in 2024 the WhatsApp thread goes quiet for weeks. Read alone, the WhatsApp export looks like a cooling-off. **The merged record shows the opposite.** Both silences begin within minutes of a block, and the same voice resumes on another platform: Instagram within twelve minutes in February; text messages from a new number in June; Telegram, Instagram and finally the recipient's work LinkedIn account in October.



Weekly message volume across 2024. In both shaded windows the WhatsApp line falls to zero while the dashed line rises: the contact did not stop, it changed carrier. A single-platform export would show only the silence.

The switching, in the parties' own words

WhatsApp 08 Feb 2024, 22:18. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 342)

"I can see you're online"

22:18 on 8 February 2024: the last WhatsApp message before the block.

Instagram 08 Feb 2024, 22:27. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 343)

"You think you can just block me?"

22:30, twelve minutes later, on Instagram. The block did not end the contact; it moved it.

Instagram 09 Feb 2024, 21:04. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 350)

"Nice weekend away was it? I saw the photos"

The following evening. Being blocked on one platform did not stop the account being watched on another.

iMessage / SMS 21 Jun 2024, 22:00. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 558)

"New number. You can't avoid this conversation forever"

21 June 2024, by text from an unrecognised number, after the previous number was blocked.

Telegram 03 Oct 2024, 22:00. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 718)

"This app works too. You can run but the messages follow"

3 October 2024: a platform that appears in the record for the first time that night, for this purpose.

 **LinkedIn** 05 Oct 2024, 09:12. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 731)

“Your phone is off and I know you are seeing these at work”

5 October 2024, on LinkedIn: two days into the second block, contact moves to the workplace.

 **LinkedIn** 05 Oct 2024, 09:40. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 733)

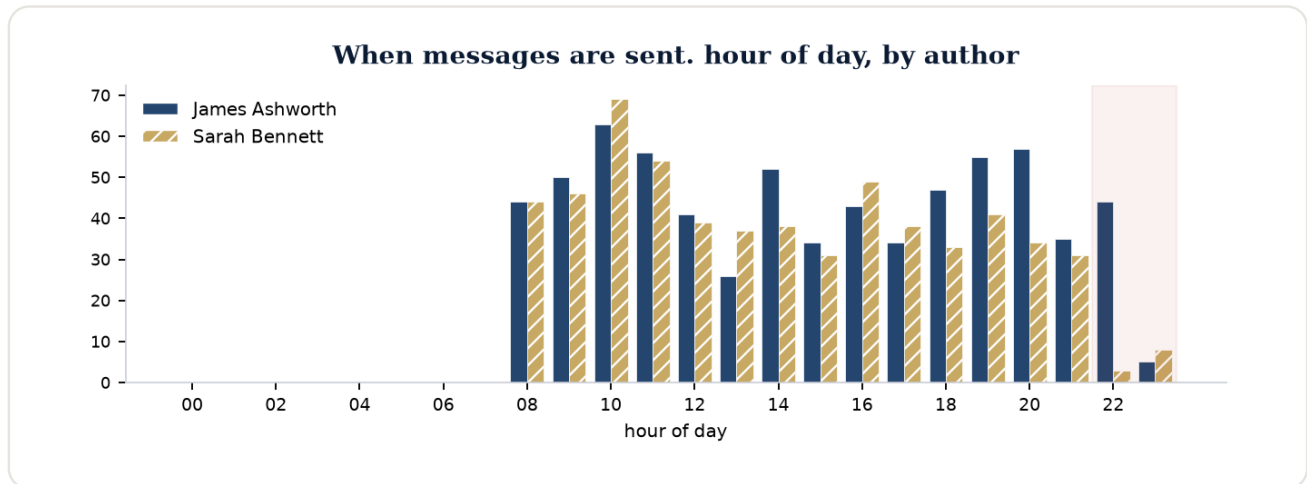
“Do not contact me through my work account. I am keeping this.”

Bennett's contemporaneous objection, on the same platform, minutes later.

Why this matters. Contact that resumes on a new platform after a block, from a new number, or through a workplace account is a pattern courts are asked to assess in harassment and non-molestation applications. Whether it amounts to harassment is a question for a court. What this document does is make the pattern **visible and verifiable**: every message above is quoted verbatim, badged with its source platform, and traceable to its place in the merged record.

9. Deep dive: the late night and blocking pattern

Message timing is itself part of the record. Between 22:00 and 06:00 the thread contains **49** messages from James Ashworth and **11** from Sarah Bennett. The chart shows the full 24 hour distribution; two dated late night sequences follow in full.



Hour-of-day distribution, by author. The shaded band marks the late evening window discussed in this section.

08 Feb 2024. late night sequence

WhatsApp 08 Feb 2024, 22:00. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 340)

“We need to talk about this NOW”

WhatsApp 08 Feb 2024, 22:09. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 341)

“Don’t ignore me”

WhatsApp 08 Feb 2024, 22:18. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 342)

“I can see you’re online”

Instagram 08 Feb 2024, 22:27. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 343)

“You think you can just block me?”

Instagram 08 Feb 2024, 22:36. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 344)

“Found you. You don’t get to just disappear”

Instagram 08 Feb 2024, 22:45. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 345)

“answer me”

Instagram 08 Feb 2024, 22:54. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 346)

“This is far from over”

 **iMessage / SMS** 08 Feb 2024, 23:58. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 347)

“Please stop. We can talk after school drop off.”

03 Oct 2024. late night sequence

 **Telegram** 03 Oct 2024, 22:00. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 718)

“This app works too. You can run but the messages follow”

 **Telegram** 03 Oct 2024, 22:09. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 719)

“I’ll keep messaging until you reply”

 **Telegram** 03 Oct 2024, 22:18. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 720)

“Don’t ignore me”

 **Telegram** 03 Oct 2024, 22:27. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 721)

“answer me”

 **Instagram** 03 Oct 2024, 22:36. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 722)

“You think you can just block me?”

 **Instagram** 03 Oct 2024, 22:45. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 723)

“I can see you’re online”

 **Instagram** 03 Oct 2024, 22:54. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 724)

“We need to talk about this NOW”

 **Instagram** 03 Oct 2024, 23:03. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 725)

“This is far from over”

 **iMessage / SMS** 03 Oct 2024, 23:58. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 726)

“I’m asleep. Anything about Mia can wait until morning.”

02 Apr 2025. late night sequence

 **WhatsApp** 02 Apr 2025, 22:00. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 1,072)

“Are you awake”

 **WhatsApp** 02 Apr 2025, 22:09. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 1,073)

“Don’t ignore me”

 **WhatsApp** 02 Apr 2025, 22:18. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 1,074)

“I can see you're online”

 **WhatsApp** 02 Apr 2025, 22:27. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 1,075)

“answer me”

 **Instagram** 02 Apr 2025, 22:36. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 1,076)

“You think you can just block me?”

 **Instagram** 02 Apr 2025, 22:45. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 1,077)

“Found you again”

 **Instagram** 02 Apr 2025, 22:54. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 1,078)

“This is far from over”

 **iMessage / SMS** 02 Apr 2025, 23:58. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 1,079)

“It's nearly midnight. I'll reply tomorrow.”

The blocking-evasion category (section 5) sits inside the same pattern: messages announcing a new number, referencing the recipient's online status, and promising to keep messaging until answered.

10. Deep dive: the apology and repair cycle

Apology language appears in both directions: **10** findings for James Ashworth and **8** for Sarah Bennett. The cycle matters to a fact-finding reader in two ways. A pattern of escalation, incident, apology and repetition is itself probative; and genuine repair, in either direction, is part of a fair picture of the relationship. Both readings are open on this record and this document does not choose between them.

 **WhatsApp** 01 Jul 2023, 21:30. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 28)

"I'm sorry for what I said yesterday, it was unfair."

 **WhatsApp** 02 Jul 2023, 21:29. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 31)

"I was out of line, my apologies. Can we start over on the weekend plan"

 **WhatsApp** 23 Mar 2024, 20:41. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 413)

"I'm sorry about this morning. That was wrong of me. Saturday roam as agreed."

 **iMessage / SMS** 30 Mar 2024, 14:10. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 429)

"Look, I'm sorry about last night, that was out of order"

 **iMessage / SMS** 21 Dec 2024, 18:56. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 877)

"That last message came out harsher than I meant. Sorry."

 **WhatsApp** 14 May 2025, 23:01. **Sarah Bennett** (S to J · record line 1,162)

"I'm sorry things are hard but this isn't okay. Goodnight."

 **WhatsApp** 14 May 2025, 23:04. **James Ashworth** (J to S · record line 1,163)

"sorry doesn't cut it anymore"

II. What the thread supports and what needs external evidence

A single channel never carries a whole case. For each key incident the table states what the thread itself evidences and what would need to come from outside it. In a real engagement this table is where solicitor and client decide what to gather next.

Incident	What the thread supports	What needs external evidence
19/08/2023. missed gala, custody threat	The threat, its run-up and the same day response, all in-thread	Attendance records for the gala; any witness to the child's reaction
04/11/2023. birthday no-show	The waiting messages in real time and the 23:47 reframing	Party invitations, photographs, third party recollections
06/09/2024. conditional maintenance	The condition stated in words in-thread	Bank records showing whether and when payments were made
22/12/2024. repudiated agreement	Reference to an October agreement and its repudiation	The October agreement itself, in whatever form it exists
28/02/2025. the never see her again threat	The full exchange with timestamps and the documented response	Nothing further. the thread itself is the primary record
14/05/2025. late night barrage	The complete timed sequence	Phone records if call attempts accompanied the messages

12. Legal framework: fact-finding hearings & non-molestation orders

This section sets out, in outline and in plain English, the two procedural settings this document format is most often prepared for. It is general information, not advice on any case.

Fact-finding hearings

Where allegations of domestic abuse are raised in children proceedings in England and Wales, Practice Direction 12J requires the court to consider them, decide whether they are relevant to the orders sought, and where necessary determine them at a fact-finding hearing. Each allegation is decided on the balance of probabilities. Since *Re H-N and Others [2021] EWCA Civ 448* the courts have emphasised patterns of behaviour over isolated incidents, which is why this document is built around dated clusters and whole-record counts rather than single lines.

Non-molestation orders

Under section 42 of the Family Law Act 1996 the court may make an order prohibiting molestation of an applicant or a relevant child. The court considers all the circumstances including the need to secure the health, safety and well-being of the applicant and any child. Contemporaneous message records, presented completely and in both directions, are routinely central to such applications, and equally central to responding to them.

Both uses cut both ways. The same organised record that supports a well-founded application also protects a wrongly accused respondent, because the complete two-sided record is exactly what curated extracts are not.

13. How to use this document, glossary & verification statement

How to use it

- **Solicitors:** sections 3 to 6 are designed to be read in fifteen minutes; the category counts and incident clusters map directly onto a schedule of allegations or a response to one.
- **Litigants in person:** section 6 shows how to present an incident without cherry-picking; section 9 lists what to gather next.
- **Mediators:** the two-sided counts and the apology cycle in section 8 give a balanced starting picture.

Glossary

Term	Meaning in this document
Finding	A machine interpretation that a message may evidence a category of behaviour, surfaced for human review. Not a fact.
Severity	A 1 to 5 grade of how serious a finding would be if the interpretation is accepted. Not a finding of fact.
Direction	Which party sent the message a finding attaches to. Classified before counting.
Cluster	A run of consecutive messages reproduced together so the run-up and aftermath travel with the key line.
Verified	Checked verbatim by software against the source export before printing.

Verification statement

This document contains **151** quotation cards. Every one was programmatically verified verbatim against the source transcript at build time; **0** candidate quotations failed verification and were excluded. All counts and charts were computed directly from the transcript of 1,281 messages at build time. Report ID LH-SAMPLE-20260802-V1.

And finally, once more: James Ashworth, Sarah Bennett, Mia and every message in this document are fictional. No real person's data was used. To see what this format does with a real record, visit legallyheard.co.uk or write to info@legallyheard.co.uk.